

No 61.947

TOMORROW



A legend at 50  
Brigitte Bardot, still  
beautiful, but alone and  
afraid of growing old

A shrine at 75  
Twickenham, the  
spiritual home of rugby  
celebrates an historic  
milestone

Saving face  
Can western leaders,  
meeting in Costa Rica,  
shore up Duarte's hold  
on El Salvador?

Money-go-round  
David Miller investigates  
the distribution of the  
massive profits from the  
LA Games

Portfolio

The Times Portfolio competition prize was shared by three winners yesterday. Mr David Severn of Woking, Surrey; Mr Sittampalan Kesava of Ilford, Essex; and Mr Sarbjit Singh of London. Portfolio list page 18. How to play, information service, back page

Spending freeze dropped

The Government has dropped its threat to freeze capital spending by councils. Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, said that many councils had responded to his summer appeal for voluntary cuts and he could therefore rely on further restraint to yield necessary savings. Page 4

France returns three Basques  
Spanish security forces went on alert in the Basque country as France returned three Basques to stand trial for murder. At least nine people were injured and 40 arrested in a general strike in the region. Page 7

Junta justified  
Argentina's Supreme Military Tribunal has defied President Alfonsín's civilian Government in openly justifying the "dirty war" carried out by the former military junta against left-wing guerrillas. Page 6

Ethnic violence  
More than half of attackers in violent thefts in London during the past three years were not white, according to their victims. Page 2

Debt deal  
Agreement by Argentina to a set of IMF austerity measures has bankers hopeful that a new debt crisis can be averted. Page 19

Tough for Faldo  
Nick Faldo has drawn Craig Stadler, of the United States, in the first round of the World Matchplay championships at Wenvorth. Page 22

Leader page, 11  
Letters: On coal extraction from Mr J F O Switzer and Mr E Goodman; the Bishop of Durham, from Mr N St John Stevens and others; the Hayward Gallery, from Mr F Averbach and Mr D Fair. Leading articles: Hongkong; Durban six. Features, pages 8, 10. Revolt, still our defence of last resort, by Tony Benn; Bernard Levin on instant classics; why the Bishop of Durham was wrong, by Ronald Butt. Spectrom: a profile of Sir Frederick Ashton. Books, page 9. James Fenton reviews Peter Ackroyd's biography of T. S. Eliot; fiction of the week includes new novels by Angela Carter, John Updike, Gore Vidal, Martin Amis, Andre Brink, and Yevgeny Zamyatin. Advertising, pages 13-16. The Advertising Association is in confident mood. A Special Report on the eve of its biennial conference. Obituary, page 12. Mr Walter Pidgeon, Lord Guest, PC. Classified, pages 25-30. Appointments: La crème de la crème.

Pit deputies' vote forces NCB to compromise

By David Felton, Labour Correspondent

The National Coal Board last night mounted a desperate attempt to head off next week's threatened strike by pit deputies after an unprecedented 85 per cent vote in favour of action by the moderate supervisory union.

Board officials, led by Mr Ian MacGregor, NCB chairman, put compromise proposals to avert the strike to leaders of the National Association of Colliery Overmen. Deputies and Shot-firers at a five-hour meeting in London.

Those proposals, which are secret, will be put to a special meeting of the NCB executive tomorrow, when the official ballot result will also be announced. A strike, which would shut down all coal production, could be started as early as next Monday.

However, there were indications after last night's meeting that the board was prepared to back down on its refusal to pay about 3,000 deputies, mainly in Yorkshire and Scotland, who have refused to cross militant miners' picket lines.

A fresh meeting between the two sides is to be held next week and coal board officials were hopeful that even if the deal on offer was rejected there would be no industrial action until after that meeting.

The board is bound under law not to allow any coal to be cut in pits where NCB members are not available to do supervisory and safety work. The traditionally moderate union has urged its members to work normally after an earlier vote on strike action failed to reach the 66 per cent majority needed to call a strike.

That majority of Nicods' 17,000 members has been easily surpassed in the secret pit head ballot which ended yesterday, with some pits in Nottinghamshire recording majorities in favour of taking strike action of about 88 per cent. The majority in Scotland was thought to be more than 80 per cent, with a similar margin in the North-east.

The size of the vote surprised senior coal board officials who had, however, anticipated an overall majority for the executive's strike call. The issue of non-payment for deputies refusing to cross picket lines was linked in the ballot to opposition to pit closures.

After last night's meeting, the NCBs team, led by Mr Ken Sampson, its president, and Mr Peter McNestry, general secretary, returned to their Doncaster headquarters, saying only that the board proposals would be discussed by their executive tomorrow.

A deal looked the most likely prospect because coal board officials conceded privately that it was not worth risking the continuation of production in the vital Nottinghamshire coalfield to make the point that deputies should make a "genuine" attempt to go into work.

The dispute over whether NCBs had signed an agreement with the NCB guaranteeing normal working by their members continued last night and the coal board said that about 1,000 deputies for each of the past three weeks had refused to go to work.

The prospect of disruption by NCBs comes on the eve of today's meeting of the National Union of Mineworkers executive, which will hear reports of TUC-backed support from transport unions and some power industry unions for the union's fight against pit closures.

The executive is also likely to decide the line it will take at next week's Labour Party conference and consider whether it is prepared to start fresh negotiations on the seven-month strike with the NCB under the auspices of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service.

Electricity supply unions meet in London tomorrow to decide the level of support they are prepared to give to the miners. They are likely to be split, with the electricians' and managers' unions refusing to urge members to take support action.

The Prime Minister refused to be drawn into the controversy surrounding the centenary speech at Durham by Bishop David Jenkins, merely saying: "I don't think I should be so fussed about getting involved in that."

She was asked if it was time for the Government to take a more active role in the dispute. "What are you proposing the Government should do?" she responded. "After the offer to the miners it must be abundantly clear that it is not a plain, straightforward industrial dispute. I do not think there is a role for the Government other than the one it is now actively playing."

The Prime Minister praised the police for their work on the picket lines. "We are extremely grateful for what you have done and so, I think, are the overwhelming majority of the British public. Many thanks for what you have done."

There were a dozen demonstrators among a crowd several hundred strong who chanted slogans in support of the miners' strike at York. Ministers but they were easily drowned by applause and cheers for Mrs Thatcher.

Photograph, page 2

Chorus of praise greets Hongkong deal

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent



Cheers: Sir Richard Evans, British Ambassador to China, toasting the agreement with Mr Luo Jiahuan (right), a Chinese Foreign Ministry official. Between them is Mr Ke Zaishuo, a key figure in the detailed negotiations.

The future of Hongkong, a British colony for 142 years, was changed in two minutes at Peking's Great Hall of the People yesterday, when Britain and China initiated their agreement for its return to Chinese rule in 13 years' time.

The settlement which emerged after two years' hard bargaining in the form of a 40-page White Paper was hailed by Sir Edward Youde, the Governor, as a blueprint for Hongkong's development, and by Sir Geoffrey Howe, Britain's Foreign Secretary, as a "historic and remarkable" document, enshrining the "imaginative concept of one country, two systems".

The White Paper contained a joint declaration on the transfer of sovereignty on July 1, 1997.

Howe comments  
Home and foreign reaction  
Texts, photographs  
Leading article, letter  
Kenneth Fleet

when Britain's 99-year lease on the New Territories expires, followed by a breakdown of how China intends to administer the territory for the next 50 years as a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic.

Three annexes then set out in greater detail than many had feared possible how Peking plans to preserve Hongkong's intensely capitalist life-style during that time, under an elected legislature, an unchanged legal system and virtual economic autonomy.

Existing land rights will be recognized. English can continue as an official language alongside Chinese and the Special Administrative Region can even choose its own flag to flutter beside that of the People's Republic.

An exchange of memoranda between the two governments contained in the White Paper makes clear that after 1997 Peking will regard all those in Hongkong as Chinese nationals.

The title of British Dependent Territories Citizen and accompanying passport, now enjoyed by 2.5 million people in the colony, will also disappear. But it will be replaced by another which will give those who apply a similar British status, with rights to use British consular services when abroad and other fringe benefits.

On the other hand, Government sources were emphasizing last night that this would not give them the right of abode in Britain, and no mass influx in to this country is being contemplated.

Whether Hongkong citizens will have to serve as conscripts in the People's Liberation Army seems not to have been considered in the negotiations, and could conceivably cause a problem.

But Sir Geoffrey Howe, at a press conference in New York, where he is attending the UN General Assembly, said among those who underlined that the document, while described as a "draft" agreement, could not be amended.

Hongkong's 5.3 million

Continued on back page, col 5

Champagne in Great Hall of the People

From David Bonavia, Peking

Mr Zhou Nan, a Deputy Foreign Minister, half-embraced Sir Richard Evans, the British Ambassador to China, after the initialing and exchange of documents here yesterday.

The ceremony took place in the West Room of the Great Hall of the People, under a huge screen-painting of birds happily nesting together. Afterwards the official parties drank a toast in Chinese champagne.

The initialing was the product of two years of negotiations, which were begun after Mrs Thatcher's visit to China in 1982. Mr Ji Pengfei, the former Foreign Minister who presided over the normaliza-

tion of Anglo-Chinese relations in 1972, was also present.

Mr Zhou said in a speech that the solution of the Hongkong issue was "a major event worth celebrating". It would put into practice the concept of "one country, two systems", and guarantee Hongkong's stability and prosperity in the future under Chinese sovereignty.

He added: "The settlement of the Hongkong question will certainly help further to consolidate and develop the existing Sino-British friendly ties on a new basis, and offers fresh experience for settling peacefully problems between states left over from the past."

"We believe that the agreement fully conforms to the fundamental interests of

the one billion Chinese people, including our compatriots in Hongkong, and those of the British people, and will win their endorsement and support."

Sir Richard said in reply that the agreement, the text of which was to be published later in the day, was "an historic document".

The Ambassador said that the joint declaration, as the agreement is being called, "demonstrates that peaceful negotiation is the best way to resolve problems left over from history".

Sir Edward Youde, the Governor of Hongkong, who has participated in most of the negotiations, was also present for the initialing. Afterwards the negotiating teams were to attend a luncheon together.

Pretoria wants arms bail refund

From Michael Horusby, Johannesburg

Pretoria intends to apply to the court in Britain for a refund of the £200,000 bail posted for the four South African accused of arms smuggling, even though it has reneged on its undertaking to send them back for trial.

In a television interview on Tuesday, Mr R F Botha, the Foreign Minister, said Pretoria would also ask to be relieved of paying an additional £200,000 which the court had been promised if the men failed to turn up.

The application would be made on the basis that South Africa had not broken its undertaking, but because it had felt compelled to do so by Britain's refusal to hand over the six political dissidents who had taken refuge in the British Consulate in Durban.

There is still no indication, meanwhile, of when the Supreme Court will hand down a ruling on the appeal by the six against the detention order issued by the Minister of Law and Order.

Lawyers for the six, a black and five Indians, thought the verdict might only come next week. The six have let it be known that if it is in their favour, they will leave the consulate, if it goes against them, they may take the matter to the Appellate Court.

Lawyers said that the money would be deposited in court, but merely promised (Frances Gibb writes).

It was put up by Mr Andre Pelser, first secretary at the South African Embassy. Whether he stood surety in a personal capacity or on behalf of his government, lawyers yesterday envisaged great difficulties in obtaining the money.

First, Mr Pelser might be able to claim diplomatic immunity and secondly, he might be able to claim sovereign immunity.

Kinnock setback on MPs' reselection

By Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent

Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, yesterday suffered an embarrassing defeat in the left-wing executive on the national executive on the plan to allow one-member, one-vote reselection of Labour MPs as parliamentary candidates.

Yesterday's executive meeting, which considered the agenda for next week's Blackpool party conference, had received a letter from Mr Peter Heathfield, general secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers, asking for further consultation on the plan.

Because his union sponsored 15 Labour MPs and because unions would undoubtedly be affected by the choice of Labour candidates by ballot of party members, he said that the NUM was extremely concerned and that they had a right to be fully consulted.

However, Mr Kinnock and his Commons colleagues are acutely conscious of the fact that the reselection process begins in December and that if next week's conference fails to reach a decision a significant number of Labour MPs could be deselected in the next 12 months.

Mr Kinnock told yesterday's meeting that the extension of party democracy was an issue of principle. Mr Benn said that the executive had a responsibility to protect the conference from unnecessary division.

But, ironically, Mr Kinnock

Savings to pay 8% in new issue

A new issue of National Savings certificates paying interest at 8 per cent a year, tax free over five years, will become available from October 15, the Department of National Savings said yesterday.

It will be the twenty-ninth issue, and replaces the short-lived twenty-eighth which paid 9 per cent and attracted more than £900m in gross receipts before it was withdrawn this month.

Since then the building societies have reported much improved savings deposits, amounting to around £800m.

But although that has eased the pressure on home loans, the societies said yesterday that they did not expect a drop in mortgage rates before the end of the year.

Details, page 19

Benn to give conference call for coal expansion

By Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent

Mr Tony Benn, a former Secretary of State for Energy, will next week try to commit the Labour Party to stand "shoulder to shoulder" with the miners, with an expansion rather than contraction of the coal industry.

Labour's national executive yesterday laid down its tough terms for dealing with the politically delicate issue of the pit strike at next week's party conference in Blackpool.

The package contained one bonus for Mr Neil Kinnock, the party leader, but the overall verdict last night was that the party's image was bound to take a battering from a highly-charged debate.

The good news for Mr

King considers disputes law

By Our Labour Correspondent

Ministers are considering introducing legally-binding procedural agreements as the central plank of the next phase of the Government's industrial relations legislation.

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Employment, has told colleagues that he is interested in a new round of labour laws to prevent unions from calling industrial action without going through exhaustive procedures first.

The other option immediately open to the Government is the manifesto pledge to bring in controls on strikes in essential services, although that appears to have little support among Conservatives at the moment.

The fourth stage in the Government programme to

reduce trade union influence is some way off, and Mr King is likely to hold a series of consultation exercises before the legislation is drafted.

But the move toward procedural agreements which would also have the backing of employers' organizations, is thought to be most likely to win Mr King's approval.

The Conservative trade union organization CTU is a strong supporter of procedural agreements, although it believes the Government should concentrate on effective implementation of the most recent trade union legislation.

Sections of the Trade Union Act which came into force yesterday on ballots and compulsory industrial action and compul-

sory elections for union leadership will need some time to be "bedded in", according to Conservative sources.

A new phase of labour legislation is being demanded by the right-wing of the party along the lines of a "Bill of rights" which would control unions' ability to call industrial action. However, that is regarded as unrealistic, particularly in view of the miners' strike.

The government's aim is to get support among rank-and-file trade unionists for the use of ballots before industrial action is called, and ministers are expected to monitor closely demands by some unions for supportive action to back the miners.

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# Advertising cuts for NHS to halve cost of recruiting

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Plans to save half the cost of recruiting staff to the National Health Service by cutting advertising were announced yesterday by Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services.

Health authorities are to be told to cut the size of advertisements, to advertise in most cases only in one journal, to use job centres to recruit staff rather than relying heavily on local newspaper advertising and to reduce the use of agencies to place advertisements.

In addition, publishers of professional journals such as *Nursing Times* and *Nursing Mirror* are being pressed to give specially negotiated rates to health authorities.

The moves, should save half the £8m a year spent by the health service on advertising. Mr Fowler said, but the announcement brought warnings from publishers that it would dramatically reduce the size of the professional journals.

Mr Fowler has rejected a suggestion in a Rayner scrutiny published earlier this year that the health service should run its own jobs register, which the report calculated, would save £7m of the £8m.

Mr Fowler said that "for far too long health authorities have been wasting a lot of money by taking out large, costly advertisements in national journals. Just that money should be going to patient care."

One of the Government's aims appears to be to get health authorities to place advertisements directly with the journals, cutting out agencies, with health authorities receiving a rebate the 10 per cent normally given to the agencies.

Mr Ray Barker, marketing director for Macmillan Journals, which publishes *Nursing Times* and other health journals, said however, that the publishers could not afford to pay the whole rebate. Agencies did much work for the publishers in preparing advertisements and collecting payment and publishers would need extra staff to deal with 300 health authorities rather than 20 to 30 agencies.

"These moves will dramatically reduce the size of all the journals and will, therefore, affect their commercial viability. I guess the weaker magazines will go out of business," he said.

Mr Fowler said that detailed negotiations had still to take place with publishers and guidance would be issued to health authorities later in the year.

## Police chief programme to be shown

A television documentary on Derbyshire's suspended Chief Constable, Mr Alf Parrish, will be shown tonight after legal moves by the police authority to stop it were settled in the High Court yesterday.

The TV Eye documentary, "Chief Constable on Trial", focuses on the suspension this year of Mr Parrish, who has two children, by the Derbyshire police authority over alleged irregularities.

The authority queried the spending of £28,000 on refurbishing his office and £3,500 on uniforms for the police band.

The authority had sought an injunction to stop the programme because it used leaked confidential documents on which it claimed copyright.

But the authority said it would not object after Thames Television agreed to include a 23-word statement from the authority explaining why it wished to preserve the documents' confidentiality and undertook to return them.

A meeting of Derbyshire police committee, called to give Mr Parrish the chance to answer fresh allegations against him, has been postponed from tomorrow at the request of Mr Parrish's solicitor.

## New institute to study science and religion

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

A new institute to study at the highest academic level the relationship between science and religion is to be set up at Oxford in association with St Cross College.

It will be called the Ian Ramsey Centre, in honour of the late Bishop of Durham, who was Nolloth Professor of the Philosophy of the Christian Religion at Oxford.

The most recent holder of that chair, Professor Basil Mitchell, will chair the centre's management committee. Its director will be Dr Arthur Peacocke, Dean of Clare College, Cambridge, who will become a Fellow of St Cross College.

Research groups will study various aspects of science and religion, particularly ethical issues in medicine, environmental questions, and human personality.

## Ultimatum given on ship sit-in

Forty men occupying Cammell Laird's shipyard in Birkenhead have been given up to midnight to get out, or go to jail for a month for contempt of court.

Mr Justice Gidwell, at the High Court in Manchester, said yesterday that the men had deliberately defied court orders to leave the yard made a fortnight ago.

The men have been sitting in during the past three months in the Royal Navy warship HMS Edinburgh and an accommodation rig after a dispute with the company about redundancies.

As a result, 1,200 other workers have had to be laid off and Mr Justice Gidwell said they were anxious to get back to work. The judge said there was evidence that the men had barricaded a gangway, daubed slogans on the vessels, and thrown missiles at Cammell Laird managers.

"If I were the First Lord of the Admiralty or Secretary of State for Defence I would be very concerned about the security of HMS Edinburgh", the judge said.

He said there could be secret equipment on board to which nobody should have access and he was concerned that it was possible for the vessel to be seized and retained.

## Polar expedition will follow Scott's route

By Adriana Caudrey

Captain Scott's epic voyage to the Antarctic and his trek to the South Pole is to be relived when a team of explorers sets sail from London next week. They hope to make it the first expedition of its kind to be in satellite contact with the outside world, flashing news of their progress.

Seventy-four years after Scott sailed from the West India Dock, the team will follow his route.

The new expedition's vessel, the Southern Quest, is named after Ernest Shackleton's ship, the Quest, which made the voyage a year earlier.

Mr Robert Swan, aged 27, the latter-day Scott of the expedition, is braving the 80-day trek from Scott's camp at Cape Evans, to the South Pole, a distance of 833 miles, with Mr Roger Mear, aged 34, the



Police pep talk: Mrs Margaret Thatcher at York police station yesterday with officers who have been on picket duty.

## Derbyshire drifts back to work

By Glen Allan

Miners in North Derbyshire - regarded as the "touchstone" of coalfield opinion - are beginning to drift back to work, according to the National Coal Board.

On Tuesday last week, 902 men turned up for work. On Thursday, this figure rose to 935 and yesterday the board reported an increase to 960.

A coal board official said last night: "Generally, the return to work overall appears to be maintaining its impetus."

The board's claim was supported by figures from Scotland which showed that 285 miners had reported for work yesterday, the highest figure since the strike began seven months ago.

But it is the trend in North Derbyshire which is intriguing the statisticians at coal board headquarters, for the area in the past has been a signpost of miners' real opinions.

Last night, the picture of pits with men working and producing coal looked like this:

NCB area	No of pits in area	Pits with men working	Pits producing coal
Scotland	12	11	1
North East	15	14	1
North West	10	10	0
Yorkshire	10	10	0
Derbyshire	10	10	0
West Midlands	15	15	0
East Midlands	9	8	3
North	14	14	14
South	11	11	11
West	24	14	12
South West	17	16	13
Wales	38	0	0

## Opencast producers moving excess coal

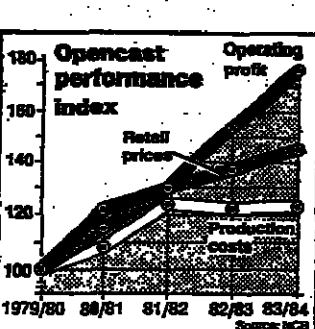
Britain's 50 open cast coal mines are producing coal at the levels forecast in the 1974 Plan for Coal, which is central to the dispute between the National Coal Board and the National Union of Mineworkers.

Production is at levels which will result in an annual output of 15m tonnes from the pits operated for the NCB by private contractors using men in the Transport and General Workers' Union.

The official coal board position is that the coal is being stockpiled under an agreement between the TGWU and the NUM made at the start of the miners' strike.

However there are clear signs that much of the coal is being moved by road to industrial and domestic users as well as power stations as storage space runs out.

At the start of the strike, there was an estimated 4,700,000 tonnes of open cast coal in stock. If all coal produced had been stocked, there would be



tonnes of coal and has rights over 42,900 hectares of land, of which about 12,000 hectares are in the hands of contractors, such as Wimpey and Derek Crouch, for development.

A further 8,300 hectares are being rehabilitated for agricultural use by contractors working for the NCB and 22,000 hectares are held in reserve awaiting development or sale after restoration.

The workings of the Open Cast Executive have been affected by recent changes in planning legislation. Plans to develop seven sites which would have required public inquiries have been withdrawn.

Proposals for new developments in the south-west, the north-east and central Scotland have, however, been notified to local authorities.

Since opencast mining started in Britain in 1942 as part of the war effort, it has always been carried out by private contractors employed by the NCB,

although the coal board has 1,600 staff working on the Opencast Executive. Almost two thirds are geologists, civil engineers, surveyors and administrative staff handling planning applications and restoration schemes.

Opencast mining was cut in 1959 and 1968 when coal demand fell, but technical developments made since the early 1950s mean that coal can be dug from depths of up to 200 metres (650ft), as opposed to 15 metres (49ft) when open-cast production started.

As well as its price advantage, opencast coal has several other advantages over deep-mined coal. It has a lower ash content because matter above the actual seam can be removed completely before mining. This eliminates costly coal-washing. Opencast coal also has less surface moisture and dust which makes it easier to handle in modern coal-fired plants.

## Union to block stockpile movements over pay-offs

The National Coal Board faces disruption even if the National Union of Mineworkers' strike ends.

More than 7,000 opencast workers are being urged to block the movement of coal stockpiles to try to secure greater job protection.

The men are refusing to release the stocks in support of the NUM, but are being called on to continue the action when the pit strike is over unless there are assurances over - jobs or

where redundancies are inevitable - higher severance pay.

The Transport and General Workers' Union is to ballot members on the action, but a meeting of delegates yesterday expressed confidence that the current action would be endorsed on an issue which affected members directly.

Basically transport workers will seek parity with redundancy terms negotiated as part of any solution to the seven-month NUM stoppage.

TGWU members look with some envy at up to £36,480 payable to their deep mine colleagues.

Open cast mines provide about 14 per cent of coal board output and give management a flexibility of production not achievable by traditional pits.

About eight million tonnes of open cast coal is stockpiled, but some is getting through, according to the Central Electricity Generating Board. Special dispensations are given by the

union to hospitals, schools and pensioners.

Union leaders said yesterday that anyone "victimized for not moving coal would be immediately backed by an all out strike."

Mr George Henderson, the union's national officer, said that the iron, steel and deep mine coal workers received benefits from the EEC's redundancy aid funds, but although £2m out of £211m opencast profits went to Brussels, they saw no return.

## Ferries carry toxic cargoes

Passenger ferries regularly carry cargoes of the toxic chemical which sank with the Mont Louis last month. British Nuclear Fuels said yesterday.

About 1,200 tonnes of uranium hexafluoride are moved each year from Britain, according to company figures.

A specialist in hazardous cargo movements said that many passenger vessels were likely to carry at least one potentially dangerous consignment of goods.

The Mont Louis contained 30 drums of radioactive uranium hexafluoride, which reacts with

water, when it was in collision with a car ferry off the Belgian coast on August 25.

British Nuclear Fuels said that passenger ferries were used to transport cargoes of the chemical. But 1,200 tonnes was only about 150 cylinders.

Sealink said that it had carried such cargoes. "We strictly adhere to the safety regulations and we have our own regulations over and above what is set down by law. We would not transport anything that would present a danger to our passengers."

Sealink said that on February

28, a small consignment of natural uranium, which is not radioactively hazardous, was carried from Dieppe, France, to Newhaven on board the Senlac.

Sealink UK had not carried nuclear material on passenger ferries during the past six months and would not do so in the future.

Mr Michael Corkhill, editor of the *Hazardous Cargo Bulletin*, a trade magazine which produces 5,000 copies a month said that uranium hexafluoride gave off radioactivity only in "very small amounts".

## Re-Chem to close sooner

The controversial Re-Chem plant at Bonnybride, Stirlingshire, is to be shut next month instead of in spring 1985 after a dispute with the workforce yesterday.

The workforce refused to destroy any of the stocks of polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) stored on site. PCB can give off deadly dioxin if not incinerated properly.

Earlier this month it was announced that the plant, which had been the subject of intense public concern over its emissions, was to close. Re-Chem cited financial reasons.

Yesterday was the scheduled date for the first of a series of meetings between both sides to discuss the shutdown and the terms of severance. A Re-Chem spokesman said later: "The company have been forced to the conclusion that, instead of operating a phased programme of shutdown, the lack of cooperation by the workforce results in the plant being unviable and so it is intended that the plant will close on October 19."

On cost date, 32 of the 49 employees will leave Re-Chem's employment and talks will continue regarding redundancy payments.

## Drugs scourge out of control, judge says

Judge Edward Jones issued a warning in the Liverpool Crown Court yesterday that the drugs situation was out of control on Merseyside.

Although the police liked to think that the situation was under control the courts and the public were not convinced, he said.

"Somehow we must stem this dreadful scourge in our midst. I do not think the rest of the country, particularly London, appreciates the proportions it has reached here."

The judge said in his court there were about 700 cases in the past few weeks which had been drug or drug related. He named the Wirral as "probably the worst of the blackspots."

He added: "Police are almost frustrated by the fact that although they very often know the people they would like to get hold of, they are hiding behind a facade of innocence."

The judges comments were made before he passed sentence on Gary Melhuish unemployed shipyard worker, aged 24, who pleaded guilty to charges of possessing and supplying heroin. He was sentenced to three years imprisonment.

## Non-whites blamed for 53% of violent theft

By Peter Evans

Home Affairs Correspondent

Victims of robbery and other recorded violent theft said that more than 50 per cent of assailants were non-white in the years 1981-83, according to a Home Office analysis of Metropolitan Police District crime statistics released yesterday.

The 1983 figure of 53 per cent is the lowest of the three years, compared with 55 per cent in 1981 and 57 per cent in 1982.

The proportion of non-white assailants committing recorded offences off "street robbery of personal property" and "other violent theft from the person" was close to 60 per cent over the three years.

Even allowing for considerable misrecording of ethnic description - it could be biased or unreliable - the proportion of such offences attributable to non-white persons was higher than their proportion in the population, aged 10-24. But more than a small minority of the non-white population were involved as assailants in this limited range of offences.

From 1977 to 1983, between 14 and 17 per cent of those arrested in the Metropolitan Police District for all types of crime were black-skinned, a proportion higher than for the London population as a whole (about 5 per cent of whom were black-skinned in 1977/78 and possibly 6 per cent in 1981).

The statistics are not exactly comparable, but the best estimates of the over-representation of young blacks in arrest figures is that about 15 per cent of all those arrested are classified as black compared with about 10 per cent of the young population.

In contrast, the proportion of those arrested who were of Asian appearance, 3.4 per cent over the years 1977-1983, was about the same as their contribution to the total population (about 4 per cent). If their younger age structure is taken into account they were considerably under-represented in arrest figures.

There is no evidence that the over-representation of blacks among those arrested was accounted for by individual black offenders committing more crimes on average than individual white offenders.

Crime Statistics for the Metropolitan Police District analysed by ethnic group, 1977-1983 (available from Statistical Department, Home Office, Tolworth, Surbiton, Surrey KT6 7DS).

## Labour has biggest lead for three years

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Labour Party has secured its biggest lead over the Conservatives for more than three years, according to a survey of local council by-elections held during the past eight weeks.

The study, published in this week's *New Statesman*, shows that in 28 three-cornered contests in August and September, Labour picked up a total of 20,557 votes (38.6 per cent of the 53,000 votes cast), the Conservatives 17,159 (32.2 per cent) and the Liberal/SDP Alliance 14,799 (27.8 per cent). It is by far the best performance Labour has managed since the magazine's political editor, Mr Peter Kellner, began his regular

Seats	lost	gained	held	now
Con	20	8	1	13
Lab	10	2	4	16
Lib	4	3	9	10
SDP	0	0	2	2
Others	6	5	1	1

surveys after the formation of the Alliance in 1981.

In all, there were 45 local contests with the Alliance also performing creditably, gaining a total of eight seats.

The apparent unpopularity shown by opinion polls of the Government's policy on the Greater London Council is borne out by the survey.

The Conservatives defended three borough wards in London and lost all three.

## Private pensions urged

By Our Social Services Correspondent

The state pension system should be scrapped and replaced by private pension funds, the Adam Smith Institute, the right-wing think tank, said yesterday.

In a report on social security policy, the institute says the system encourages governments to promise more and more generous payments to future generations which have to be met from higher taxes. "It is like a chain letter with its attendant morality and likelihood of future collapse."

It should be replaced with private personal accounts which could not be drawn until retirement and to which a certain minimum contribution would have to be made. For those unable to afford the minimum the state would pay the deposits.

Benefits for industrial injury, sickness, permanent disability, childbirth, and death should also be taken out of the state system and provided for by private or company insurance the report says, and there should be an end to universal benefits paid by state to everyone regardless of their means.

Help should go only to those who need it, the institute says, provided through a guaranteed minimum income, but pitched at a level that provides incentives towards taking work, however poorly paid.

## Seven-day bank opens in Scotland

From Ronald Faux, Edinburgh

A bank believed to be the first in Britain to offer full service seven days a week is to open in Edinburgh next Tuesday. TSB Scotland said in Edinburgh yesterday that its branch in the Cameron Toll shopping complex would conduct all types of transactions, including loans and mortgages, on Saturdays and Sundays as well as during the week.

Mr Ian Macdonald, chief general manager of TSB Scotland, said the aim was to serve customers in the same manner as other businesses in the new shopping complex. The bank would be open from 9.30am to 3.30pm every weekday except Thursday when there would be an extension to 6pm. On Saturday, the bank would open from 9.30am until 5pm and on Sunday from noon until 4pm.

Although banks operate at main airports on Sundays, TSB Scotland claims that the Cameron Toll branch will be the first in Britain to offer a full banking service.

English banks are inhibited from following suit by the Sunday trading laws. The bank agreed that weekend opening would cost double that of a five-day mid-week operation and the management is negotiating with staff over pay and conditions.

The Times overseas selling prices: £2.75 (incl. postage) in UK, £3.00 (incl. postage) in Eire, £3.50 (incl. postage) in USA, £4.00 (incl. postage) in Canada, £4.50 (incl. postage) in Australia, £5.00 (incl. postage) in New Zealand, £5.50 (incl. postage) in South Africa, £6.00 (incl. postage) in India, £6.50 (incl. postage) in Japan, £7.00 (incl. postage) in Hong Kong, £7.50 (incl. postage) in Singapore, £8.00 (incl. postage) in Malaysia, £8.50 (incl. postage) in Thailand, £9.00 (incl. postage) in Philippines, £9.50 (incl. postage) in Indonesia, £10.00 (incl. postage) in Brunei, £10.50 (incl. postage) in East Timor, £11.00 (incl. postage) in West Timor, £11.50 (incl. postage) in East Timor, £12.00 (incl. postage) in West Timor, £12.50 (incl. postage) in East Timor, £13.00 (incl. postage) in West Timor, £13.50 (incl. postage) in East Timor, £14.00 (incl. postage) in West Timor, £14.50 (incl. postage) in East Timor, £15.00 (incl. postage) in West Timor, £15.50 (incl. postage) in East 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## Employers are opting for 'more productive' part-timers, claims report

By David Smith

Part-time employment in the UK is booming, alongside a continued shortage of full-time work, according to the Department of Employment's *Employment Gazette* published today.

It says:

- 3.8m part-time jobs were created between 1951 and 1981, and the increase in part-time employment has accelerated between 1981 and 1984.
- Around 80 per cent of part-time workers are women, mostly married with young children.
- Employers find part-time workers more productive.

The rapid growth in part-time employment provides the most convincing explanation why more jobs have been created while unemployment has continued to rise in tandem.

Two articles in the *Gazette* examine the part-time employment phenomenon. The first, by Dr Olive Robinson and John Wallace, notes the rapid growth in the number of part-time workers, from 799,000 in 1951, to 4,500,000 in 1981, a rise of 463 per cent.

In contrast, the number of

full-time employees fell from 19,190,000 to 16,820,000, a drop of 12.4 per cent.

Indications are that the shift towards part-time work has accelerated since 1981. The healthiest sector of the economy - services - has a tendency to employ a greater proportion of part-time workers.

Between 1981 and March 1984, the number of female part-time workers rose by 8.5 per cent, whilst there was a 2 per cent fall in total employment.

According to Robinson and Wallace, many employers prefer part-time workers because they are the more cost-effective use of labour, because continuous production or opening can be maintained without paying premium rates for overtime working and because they believe that part-time workers are more productive.

In the cases examined, ranging from food manufacturing, banking, and catering, and retailing to local authorities and the National Health Service, employers typically did not regard a part-time job as a

fraction of a full-time job, or part-time labour as a substitute for full-time labour.

Employment growth, when concentrated in part-time work, may leave the hard core of long-term unemployed unaffected.

The rapid growth in part-time work has been in service industries, and these have grown disproportionately rapidly in the south. It is likely, therefore, that part-time employment has been most freely available where unemployment is least severe.

A second *Gazette* article, by Barbara Ballard, supports the view that the majority of part-time workers are drawn from a different labour pool from full-time workers.

The article is based on the recently published *1980 Women and Employment Survey*.

A high proportion of women part-time workers are married with young children. They tended to do badly on pay and conditions in comparison with full-time women workers, but tended to have lower aspirations, job convenience being the primary factor.

## Ports told of rabies risk from racehorses

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A warning that rabies could be brought into Britain by thoroughbred horses has been given to public health officials responsible for sea and airports.

Dr James Dunlop, medical officer to the Hull local area health authority, also called for stricter attention to be paid to the importing of reptiles and amphibians as pets which, in his view, have been mistakenly regarded as free from risk of carrying the disease.

Dr Dunlop submitted a report on the movement of British-bred horses returning from racecourses and studs on the Continent after he examined a report on the spread of rabies compiled for the World Health Organization.

In the first three months of this year, 38 horses were reported as having died from rabies. Fourteen were in France, including ones from areas that have been visited by British racehorses.

Dr Dunlop said that it was widely held among veterinary experts that no records existed of horses passing rabies to humans. But he argued that previous views about diseases transmissible between animals

and humans had been wrong. He referred to investigation which demonstrated the occurrence of paratyphoid in cattle as well as humans.

He believed the regulations introduced 10 years ago to strengthen protection against rabies entering Britain had loopholes. The ease with which horses were increasingly moved to racecourses in Europe and then back home in a few days, and the longer stays of British thoroughbreds for breeding, were hazards.

He proposed mandatory immunization of horses against rabies, but he spoke against relying solely on vaccination.

Dr Dunlop was not prepared to depend for safety on the accepted view that horses suffered only "dumb" rabies, a non-communicable form, rather than a highly infectious variety classed as "furious" rabies.

Dr Dunlop thought it was an anomaly to insist that a guide dog for the blind could be immunized, but not allowed back into Britain under quarantine laws. Yet the movement of other animals, such as horses, was not questioned.

## Computer booking at resorts

By Bill Johnston, Technology Correspondent

Five seaside retreats anticipate selling holidays by computer, Bournemouth, Brighton, Hastings, Scarborough, and Torbay will allocate blocks of hotel rooms to a computer system which offers instant bookings.

The system, Reservation, Information, Tourist Accommodation (Rita), is the result of two years research and investment by the Department of Trade and Industry, the English Tourist Board, Datasolve, the British Resorts Association, and the resorts.

Travel agents use Prestel terminals to get into the computer system, operated by Datasolve to confirm bookings and print invoices. Local tourist information centres in each resort will ensure hotel allocations are kept up to date.

Mr Michael Montague, chairman of the English Tourist Board, said: "In introducing Rita I believe that English tourism is taking a huge, if overdue, step forward. At last there will be a fast, cheap, and easy way to choose and book a full range of seaside holidays."

The five resorts say the system will identify a range of holidays untouched by large operators.

## Kidney patients 'dying untreated'

A transplant surgeon disclosed today that 1,500 kidney patients die in Britain each year because they do not receive treatment.

Mr Michael Bewick, a consultant at Dulwich Hospital, south London, said that, statistically about 3,500 people between the ages of one and seventy suffered "end stage" renal failure each year. Fewer than 2,000 were treated on kidney machines, placed on some other form of dialysis, or given a transplant.

## Conveyancing move 'may affect legal aid work'

By Our Legal Affairs Correspondent

The end of the conveyancing monopoly is threatening the continuance of other legal work such as legal aid, the chairman of the Legal Aid Practitioners' Group said yesterday.

Mr Quintin Barry, a Brighton solicitor, said: "Many practices receive bank loans which are vital to tide them over the many months before they are paid for legal aid work, and which are granted solely on the strength of flourishing conveyancing work." The removal of that support would jeopardize legal aid work and make it impossible for many firms to survive.

Mr Barry, whose group represents about 2,000 barristers and solicitors specializing in legal aid, said that with low rates of pay, firms such as his were already struggling to keep their heads above water.

"The Lord Chancellor's Department seems to think that the fact that solicitors are chasing legal aid work proves that it is not badly paid," he said. But Mr Barry said that the low rates of pay pushed solicitors to do as much legal aid work as they could, working long hours and inevitably providing a less good service.

## Casual buyer of world's dearest wine

By Richard Dowling

"It's been a very boring week. I've been catching up on my VAT," Mr Peter Biddulph said. A few moments earlier he had paid £8,500 to become the owner of the world's most expensive bottle of wine.

Dressed in cord jeans, open-necked shirt, tweed jacket with patches on the elbows and with the afterglow of a very fine lunch, Mr Biddulph could have been easily mistaken for one of the journalists and photographers summoned by Sotheby's to witness the auction of an imperial of Chateau Mouton Rothschild 1924. Mr Biddulph works for Sotheby's as a consultant on violins. He also deals in violins and said he spent £500,000 a year at Sotheby's buying them.

"I'd been having lunch with a friend who wanted to see who would buy this bottle so I agreed to go along. I have a feel for auctions and no one appeared to be bidding. With the dollar being . . . er . . .

whatever it is I knew I couldn't go wrong."

At first Mr Biddulph was unaware of his momentous bid and puzzled by the media interest. He read the press hand out to learn exactly what he had bought.

Back at the office the responsibility of being a record holder began to increase his hilarity. Could he insure it? Did he dare collect it until it was insured? Should he ask Christie's to value it? Should he throw a party and drink it all? What if it was off? Could he send it back?

Eventually he despatched his secretary to collect the bottle and remembered he had shares in a Camden Town bistro.

"It would be good publicity for them to have it on display," he chuckled.

Then he swept away to the bills on his desk and stabbed at a calculator. With Sotheby's premium and value-added tax he will pay £9,477.50.



Imperial measure: Mr Peter Biddulph with his Chateau Mouton-Rothschild.

## £12m Guinness campaign may be dropped

By William Kay, City Editor

After only 20 months Arthur Guinness, the brewer, is thinking of dropping the Guinness advertising campaign. The company has spent about £12m promoting the message that beer drinkers should not be without a Guinness.

The campaign was introduced in January last year to replace the long-running series of advertisements based on the Guinness tocan.

Yesterday the company said that it had asked its advertising agency, Allen Brady and Marsh, to submit future proposals alongside a limited number of invited agencies.

It said that the Guinness campaign had "significantly

helped to reverse the decline in sales of draught Guinness", but that was only the first phase of what it described as the recovery plans for the brand.

Mr Gary Luddington, marketing director of Guinness (Great Britain), added that the review of the advertising did not necessarily mean that the account would be taken away from Allen Brady and Marsh.

However, the agency has clearly been making efforts to produce fresh ideas. Campaigns, the advertising trade paper, disclosed that the agency had been asking copywriters employed by rival companies to provide freelance scripts for Guinness commercials.

The advertising industry was shocked in January, 1982, when Mr Ernest Saunders, then the new managing director of the Guinness group, dismissed J. Walter Thompson as the agency for the company after 13 years.

Allen Brady and Marsh was given the business without open competition because, in Mr Saunders' words, "I am not here to create advertising crises for the benefit of the media."

Wolverhampton and Dudley Breweries is pulling out of the Harp Lager campaign, launched in 1961 by Arthur Guinness with support from Imperial Group's Courage,



Just practising: Corporal Pat Purcell, aged 26, Britain's first woman bomb disposal expert, putting a device to remove a fuse by remote control on a dummy bomb at RAF Wittering near Peterborough, yesterday. She has beaten off tough opposition from the men to win a place in the RAF's elite squad of 42, and is on emergency stand-by to

defuse terrorist devices and wartime bombs, clear weapon ranges, or deal with suspicious packages anywhere in the world. Corporal Purcell, joined the RAF six years ago.

She revealed that, although explosives do not frighten her, she may have problems with bombs embedded in the earth. "I can't stand worms", she said (Photograph: John Voos).

## Peak walker ends trek

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

Mr George Keeping, who has climbed 973,000ft and walked more than 2,000 miles, treated himself to a train ride down Snowdon yesterday. He was celebrating the end of a six-month journey, for the most part alone, over every peak in Britain more than 3,000ft high.

a trek which, it is claimed, has never before been done.

He has climbed to the peaks of 277 mountains in Scotland, 4 in the Lake District, and 14 in Snowdonia, starting at Alnham in Cumbria.

The only time he used transport was when he took the ferries to Skye and Mull and to cross Loch Lomond.

## Libraries to fight books tax threat

By David Hewson, Arts Correspondent

The Government is certain to attempt to impose value-added tax on books and periodicals in the next Budget, Mr George Cunningham, chief executive of the Library Association, said.

The move is bound to create protests within libraries and publishing companies, which believe that a 15 per cent increase in purchase prices would lead to a corresponding fall in the number of books published.

Mr Cunningham said that he expected that the Government would exempt newspapers from tax, but extend the tax to other forms of publication, which are tax-free.

In an article in the latest issue of *Record*, the association's magazine, Mr Cunningham writes: "I am afraid there is no remaining doubt that the Government is planning to bring forward this proposal in the 1985 Budget. Soundings which we have taken with ministers and Conservative backbenchers confirm this."

The effect, Mr Cunningham said yesterday, would be "terribly damaging" to domestic and overseas book sales. Books which are barely profitable would not stand a chance of being published if they were to be taxed.

## Lionheart troops take to the air

From Rodney Cowton, Defence Correspondent

One of the most striking incidents of Exercise Lionheart, now in its concluding stages in North Germany, occurred when RAF helicopters landed about 420 soldiers behind "enemy" lines in just over 20 sec. This was just one example of the impact which helicopters are having on British Army operations.

Among the most imposing sights of the exercise comes when a string of up to 20 Army Lynx anti-tank helicopters hover above the treeline with their landing lights switched on. They are there with just one message to signal that they have launched up to 160 TOW missiles against tanks in a "Helarm" attack.

These missions, flown by the Army Air Corps, are spectacular. Because helicopters are very vulnerable to attack, the Lynx have to creep into firing positions unobserved.

They do so by extremely low-level flying, much of it at 10ft or 20ft above the ground, taking advantage of the slightest variation in the contours of the land. They routinely fly under cables suspended between pylons and, if necessary, under much lower telephone wires as well.

They will creep along behind walls and hedgerows to gain as much cover as possible and if presented with an open gateway will go through that rather than lift over a hedge or wall.

Once in position, they hover with only their rotors and a periscope visible above the tree tops, and at the range of about 3,000 metres at which they usually fire their missiles, they are virtually invisible to their targets.

Because missiles are not actually fired in the exercise, the Lynx pilots for the last week have been signifying that they have just attacked by rising above the trees and switching on their lights so that their "victims" become aware of their presence.

Trials by other forces have suggested that, depending on circumstances, "Helarm" missions may destroy between six and 24 tanks for every helicopter lost.

Helicopters, also, are at the heart of a trial being carried out by the British 6 Airborne Brigade at the request of the Commander-in-Chief, Allied Forces Central Europe.

For a year now, and intensively during Exercise Lionheart, this brigade has been practising very rapid deployment of its men, heavily armed with anti-tank weapons, by helicopter to cope with any emergency created by a breakout of enemy armour.

This brigade's activities depend largely on RAF Chinook and Puma helicopters for their transport.

## Jealousy 'a key cause of attacks on wives'

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

Possessiveness, sexual jealousy, and expectations about domestic work are key causes of wife-battering, according to research in the *British Journal of Criminology*.

Attacks are not usually in the bedroom or kitchen but in the living room and hall. Assaults covered in the survey include an attack with a glass fibre fishing pole, standing on fingers, and punches to the face, in one case 12 or 13 times.

After a typical assault, men usually acted as if nothing had happened. "It was not uncommon for a man to indicate that it was all over and things were now back to normal simply by beginning to make requests for domestic service, such as meals or cups of tea, albeit in a somewhat conciliatory rather than demanding fashion." If a woman left him, the man acted quickly and vigorously to get her back.

The report by Dr Russell P. Dobash and Dr R. Emerson Dobash, of Stirling University, was compiled after interviews with 109 battered women in houses of refuge and 933 police cases were studied.

The violence generally had no exact point at which it began or ended but was part of a continuing relationship. Women interviewed said that men were most likely to become violent when women could be perceived to be questioning their behaviour.

That happened to 37 per cent when the woman began to argue back, 21 per cent when she questioned the legitimacy of his argument of complaint, and 9 per cent when she refused to argue back.

## Murder trial judge cuts lesser charges

Lord Kineraig, the judge in Scotland's biggest multiple murder trial at Glasgow High Court, yesterday ordered that some of the lesser charges against five of the seven defendants be dropped.

However, the charges of murdering six members of the Doyle family in their home in Garthamlock, Glasgow, in April 1981, as do the charges of attempting to murder Andrew Doyle, an ice-cream van driver, aged 18, it is alleged they were rivals in an ice-cream sales "war".

Lord Kineraig told the jury of ten women and five men that, as a result of defence submissions over the past two days, he had decided to find some of the accused on some of the charges not guilty.

His direction came on the seventeenth day of the trial, in which it is alleged that four of the accused murdered six members of the Doyle family by wilfully setting fire to a cupboard and door at the family's home in Bankend Street, on April 16.

Thomas Campbell, Thomas Gray, Joseph Steel, and Gary Moore are charged with murder.

Gray, Thomas Lafferty, and John Campbell are charged with attempted murder. George Reid is charged with assault. They deny all charges.

Mr Lafferty, who admitted he was an alcoholic, told the court of drinking sessions in the city's East end.

He denies assaulting a girl aged 15 at an ice-cream van and telling her to move away. "I can only think it happened because, being drunk, I bumped into her at the van".

## Mistress shot dead, court is told

A wealthy and "well respected" middle-aged businessman shot his former mistress dead after learning of her affair with a younger man, a Central Criminal Court jury was told yesterday.

Despite being warned by a police officer to keep away from Miss Clare Johnson, Walter Leonard Moon, aged 59, drove to London from his home in Lincolnshire to see her, Miss

Ann Curnow, for the prosecution, said.

Soon after they met outside her home in Mill Hill, north London, Mr Moon fired five shots from a semi-automatic shotgun into Miss Johnson, aged 29, who died instantly.

Mr Moon, from Pinchbeck, denied murdering Miss Johnson, a production manager.

His wife of 37 years - knew of the five-year affair with Miss Johnson, the jury was told.

Miss Curnow said Mr Moon waited for the police after the killing and told an officer: "Clare started taunting me. I took a shotgun out of my car and started firing."

Miss Curnow said that Mr Moon had hoped to divorce his wife and marry Miss Johnson, but by the summer of last year her feelings had cooled and she began going out with a Norfolk businessman of her own age.

The trial continues today.

# woman's journal

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Success story: The journal reader who became an international fashion model.

The Keep Fit Craze: Why too much exercise can be more than too little.

Fallen Idols: The cruel art of cutting celebrities down to size.

Sex problems: Are they all in the mind?

October issue out now.



## Spending freeze on councils is dropped after voluntary cuts

By Hugh Clayton, Local Government Correspondent

The Government yesterday dropped its threat to order a freeze on capital spending by councils. Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, said that too many councils had responded to his appeal for voluntary cuts.

He could therefore rely on further restraint by councils themselves to yield the necessary savings. The Government has not yet worked out the savings made by councils in cancelling expenditure on home improvement grants and other capital projects.

"I am grateful to all the authorities which have complied", Mr Jenkin said yesterday. Many have had to take difficult decisions in order to do so. A freeze would not yield enough savings in the rest of the financial year to make it worth while.

Ministers feared early in the year that councils might spend up to £1,000m this year beyond their cash limit of £2,453m. Now the excess spending will probably be less than £500m and may be eliminated by the end of the financial year.

Many Labour councils and the Conservative-led Oxfordshire County Council have rejected the Government's call for voluntary cuts. Councils say that unspent revenue raised in past years should be available for spending in the future. The Treasury argues that only this year's should be available for spending in the future.

Mr Jack Layden, Labour chairman of the Association of Metropolitan Authorities, said yesterday: "This may be a state of emergency, but it is by no means a reprieve". The Institute of Housing feared that the Government would bring in new cuts later.

High spending by Basildon council is the result mainly of policy decisions and not of waste or inefficiency, the Audit Commission reported yesterday. The commission, a quango set up by the present Government, said that Basildon's status as a new town meant that its interest costs were inevitably higher than those of other councils.

The significance of the report is that Basildon is one of 16 Labour-led councils chosen by the Government, said the report showed that Basildon spent far more than the average council on administering its housing.

The study says that although the council appears to manage its basic services more effectively than most, there is still opportunities to improve value for money locally.

Basildon has budgeted to spend £13.8m in 1984-85 which will put it 17.2 per cent above its government-imposed target.

## CIA refuses Albania file to Bethell

By Peter Hennessy

Lord Bethell, Conservative MEP for London North west, has been refused access by the United States Central Intelligence Agency to files dealing with the joint CIA-M16 operation against Albania in the 1940s on the ground that their release might confirm to the KGB the accuracy of the reports of Harold "Kim" Philby, the M16 officer who defected to Moscow in 1963.

As M16 liaison officer with the CIA in Washington in 1949, Philby was in a position to "blow" the Albanian operation, which was intended to destabilize the communist regime of Mr Enver Hoxha, and did so. Lord Bethell's book on the affair, *The Great Betrayal*, is to be published on October 29.

After two initial refusals to provide papers, Lord Bethell filed a suit against the CIA under the United States Freedom of Information Act. The CIA which won the case and the appeal in a Washington District Court, refused his request on two other grounds: that it might compromise other intelligence services and that it could harm U.S.-Albanian relations.

The CIA refused to confirm or deny that the covert operation, which was spread over four years, had even taken place.

Lord Bethell said yesterday that the CIA men had been threatened with prosecution if they spoke to him. The retired M16 man had been told to remember the need to safeguard individuals.

Lord Bethell tried but failed to persuade the Commonwealth and Foreign Office to declassify minutes of the cold war committee of its Russia subcommittee, which had helped to plan the Albanian subversion. *The Great Betrayal* by Nicholas Bethell (Hodder, £9.95).

## Meters for water considered

By Richard Dowden

Senior Thames Water Authority officials are to report early next year on the feasibility of introducing water meters on a wide scale.

Water rates are based on a property's rateable value which means that meters would benefit householders in expensive areas who do not use much water.

There are about 2,000 meters in the authority's area, which takes in about 8,500,000 customers.

A meter costs £15, plus installation, but that would fall if they were introduced on a large scale.

Mr Roy Watts, the chairman, said this week: "I have strong views that metering customers would be fundamentally right. Customers would have the choice whether to turn on or whether not to turn on because people would have to pay for it."

Mr Bill Wainwright, aged 74, and Mr George Matthews, a former editor of the paper, were dismissed in June after becoming identified increasingly with a campaign by the Eurocommunist leadership of the party to remove the paper's editors and turn editorial policy away from its present hard-line, pro-Soviet stance. Their dismissal provoked a revolt among the paper's journalists.

In a statement published earlier this week, the paper announced that Mr Wainwright's services as science correspondent were being retained and that Mr George Matthews would be "offered tickets alongside others who have expressed a desire to provide the *Morning Star* with opera reviews".

The sudden change of heart by the management committee of the People's Press Printing Society (PPPS), the cooperative which owns the paper, is clearly intended as a peace move.

## Make Christmas special for loved ones far away

Make sure you delight all those far-away friends and relatives with your greetings and gifts this Christmas... Don't miss the last posting dates.

Delivery dates abroad are set by the Post Offices in destination countries. So the Royal Mail has to make sure that ships and planes carrying Christmas mail arrive in good time.

The leaflet shown here lists all the latest posting dates for air and surface mail.

For example: The last posting date for surface mail to Australia and New Zealand is October 1st; for air mail it's December 5th.

Pick up the free leaflet from your post office today!

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**OVERSEAS CHRISTMAS MAIL 1984**  
LAST POSTING DATES



Westminster wedding: Lord Eccles, CH, the former MP David Eccles, aged 80, with his bride, Mrs Donald Hyde. They were married yesterday in the Crypt Chapel of the Palace of Westminster (Photograph: Suresh Karadia).

## Bus industry chiefs attack 'free-for-all'

By Michael Bailey, Transport Editor

Buses may disappear from parts of Britain if the Government goes ahead with plans to scrap the licensing system next year, industry leaders said yesterday.

Town and country bus services face their biggest upheaval for 50 years if the licensing system is replaced by unrestricted competition for routes.

The measures, contained in a Bill that may be rushed through before the end of the year, may reduce the subsidy of more than £500m a year, but they will not achieve the other objective of stemming the decline in bus services, speakers at the Bus and Coach Council Conference, at Blackpool, said.

On the contrary, as operators scrambled for the more profitable routes to and from town centres, where services may rise and fares fall, suburban and rural services would become even less attractive without cross-subsidies from denser routes.

Government proposals to keep them going with local subsidies would be hamstrung by the squeeze on local authority finance, particularly the ending of the Government's transport supplementary grant.

Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Transport, made a forceful speech in defence of his proposals but apparently failed to disarm his critics. He admitted that the proposals were an act of faith and the result was unpredictable. But his faith was not just in the impersonal workings of the market - though markets did usually justify his faith - but in human nature.

Bus operators would rise to the challenge of a competitive market, Mr Ridley believed.

"People do want buses, but their demands are changing, and if they do not get what they want they won't be stoical; they'll take the car or walk or not bother to make the trip. The only way we are going to get a bus network based on people's needs rather than other people's perception of those needs, is a free competitive market."

His audience disagreed. Dr Quarmby, of London Regional Transport, said the proposals were based on "conviction and simplistic academic arguments rather than evidence." Others heeded Mr Ridley with shouts of "absolute rubbish" as he fought to make his case.

Mr Alec Waugh, South Yorkshire councillor, shouted: "You've got it all wrong. You are going to destroy an industry and a major public service in this country."

Three Bristol tugmen, dismissed for refusing to join a trade union after colleagues voted to establish a closed shop, are to take their case to an industrial tribunal.

Their action is, in effect, a test case for the employment laws, for it is believed to be the first time that a closed shop ballot under the Employment Acts, 1980 and 1982, has led to workers being dismissed because they refused to abide by the result.

The issue is also being raised with Mr Neil Kinnock, leader of the Labour Party, and a member of the union involved, the Transport and General Workers' Union.

Mr Gerald Hartup, of the Freedom Association, which is assisting the three in their appeal against dismissal, said yesterday: "We believe the three men have a strong case and we will be drawing the attention of Mr Kinnock to it in advance of the tribunal hearings."

The men will be seeking what is known as "interim release" under which, if a preliminary hearing of the tribunal decides they have a strong case, employers can be instructed either to place them back on the books immediately or suspend them on full pay.

The three men, Mr Ted Outway, Mr Martin McNeill, and Mr Michael Hood, were employed by Cory King Towage, part of the Cory Ship Towage Group until the ballot decision last week.

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## Theft blow to cancer research

By Tim Jones

Doctors appealed yesterday for thieves to return 20 computer discs which contain important details of research into the link between asbestos and cancer. The theft of the discs and computer equipment was discovered at the Medical Research Council's pneumoconiosis unit at Llandough hospital, near Cardiff.

Staff at the unit, one of Britain's leading research centres into lung disease, fear that financial cuts will prevent the replacement of the equipment which, with associated computer and terminals, is worth £6,000.

Dr Robert Brown, a member of the unit, said: "We have lost six months' work. The equipment is unique and this is a very serious blow. The computer was specially adapted for use in experiments measuring radioactivity to analyse the particularly harmful effects of smoking if you work in an asbestos environment."

The theft is a further setback to the centre which is already under threat of closure by the Medical Research Council which provides £1m a year.

A magistrate from the Harrow-Hendon division appeared before Willesdon magistrates yesterday, charged with indecently assaulting a mentally handicapped woman.

Vincent Patrick Carey, aged 58, a teacher, from Harrow, north London, was said to have assaulted the woman, aged 25, at the adult training centre in Harrow in July. Mr Carey, who is married, was remanded on bail.

The issue is also being raised with Mr Neil Kinnock, leader of the Labour Party, and a member of the union involved, the Transport and General Workers' Union.

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Three Bristol tugmen, dismissed for refusing to join a trade union after colleagues voted to establish a closed shop, are to take their case to an industrial tribunal.

Their action is, in effect, a test case for the employment laws, for it is believed to be the first time that a closed shop ballot under the Employment Acts, 1980 and 1982, has led to workers being dismissed because they refused to abide by the result.

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## The Hongkong deal

# Howe says colony must accept or reject agreement as it stands

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

The Hongkong draft agreement is not open to amendment or revision and will have to be accepted by the people of Hongkong in its entirety or not at all, according to Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, in remarks made in New York after the release of the draft yesterday.

He said at a press conference that the choice was one of revision of the territory to China with the negotiated agreement or without one. Great care had been taken to consult the people of Hongkong since the start of the negotiations and it would not be helpful to suggest that the agreement could be "un-stitched".

Sir Geoffrey called the draft agreement a tremendous and revolutionary agreement taking into account the differences between the political systems of the negotiators. He predicted closer cooperation between Britain and China on other issues and described how the whole exercise had given him a tremendously valuable insight

into the way China thinks and sees the future.

In an interview with BBC radio in New York, the Foreign Secretary conceded that Britain had no sanctions should China renege on the agreement. "In the last resort there are no sanctions", he said, "but fortunately good arrangements, sensible arrangements, don't depend upon the fact that they are in the interests of the good sense of both sides."

The essential guarantees were contained in a binding international legal agreement spelt out in great detail. "Both countries have a reputation for the preservation and respect for legal agreements. Above all, the fulfilment of the agreement is in the interests of both sides."

Sir Geoffrey discounted criticism that the people of Hongkong would be simply handed over to a different kind of ideological system. At the same time he thought it was not right to take as the British Government's first objective the setting

up of plans for those who wanted to leave. "Far better to concentrate on building the liner rather than to concentrate on the lifeboats."

In another interview, Sir Geoffrey said that attempts by the British Government to secure the British administration's continuance after 1997 had proved incompatible with the Chinese objectives to restore sovereignty and administration over Hongkong.

"What was compatible with Chinese objectives and our own was within that framework to preserve and secure the existing lifestyle, arrangements and systems in Hongkong. And that is what we have got."

While Sir Geoffrey insisted that the people of Hongkong must either accept or reject the agreement as it stood, he did leave room for the possibility of subsequent amendments, simplifications and clarifications between now and 1997. Earlier he had rejected assertions that the joint liaison group would simply be overshadowed by the Chinese Government.

Leading article, page 11

## Westminster view

## Best deal available in circumstances

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

Politicians from all the main British parties yesterday gave a broad welcome to the draft agreement on the future of Hongkong.

There seems little doubt that the Government will be able to get it approved by Parliament without too much difficulty, provided the consultation process in Hongkong does not produce unexpectedly strong opposition.

The Commons debate is expected to take place in early December, or even late November.

Although for some Conservative MPs the handing over of the colony to a Communist power is hard to stomach, they have long reluctantly accepted there is no alternative.

The prevailing view on the Conservative benches was summed up yesterday by Sir Peter Blaker, chairman of the Tory backbench foreign affairs committee, who said that the Conservative Party would be happy provided that the people of Hongkong took the same view.

Mr George Robertson, Labour's foreign affairs spokesman, said the agreement was generally good. Its strength

## Airline future

## Cathay sees era of expansion

By Edward Townsend, Industrial Correspondent

Cathay Pacific, Hongkong's highly successful flag-carrier airline, has been given the go-ahead by the British Government regarding a reasonable degree of security under terms of the draft agreement, but will remain open to competition after 1997 from Chinese and any other airline that sets up in Hongkong.

Negotiations over aviation, subject to international law and agreements, have been among the more difficult aspects of the Hongkong issue. The draft agreement states: "Airline services incorporated and having their principal businesses may continue to operate."

After 1997, the Chinese Government will have full control of air services throughout the mainland and Hongkong. International services to, from and through Hongkong which do not continue into China will be the responsibility of the Hongkong Special Administrative Region, which will also retain responsibility for civil aviation management and keep its own aircraft register.

Cathay, which is 70 per cent owned by the Hongkong registered Swire Pacific company and 29 per cent by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, immediately welcomed the aviation annex to the draft agreement. A spokesman said the initial reaction was that the deal provided the framework for the continued growth and expansion of the airline "up to and well beyond 1997".

"We also believe that provided the airline continues to perform well, which we confidently expect it will, and to develop, adjusting as appropriate to changing circumstances, this document is one which gives every cause for confidence among the employees in the UK and around the world."

In notes to the White Paper, the Government says that specific authorization given to the Hongkong Special Administrative Region by the Chinese Government enabling it to negotiate bilateral arrangements with foreign countries "will as far as possible maintain the rights previously enjoyed by Hongkong."

Cathay Pacific has been the subject of widespread speculation because of the Hongkong talks. It has been suggested that the airline might tie up with British Airways or British Caledonian.

Meanwhile, aggressive selling on the Hongkong stock market trimmed more than 10 points off the Hang Seng index

## Colony's reaction

## Relief and scepticism

Hongkong (AFP) - An avid public swooped on copies of the Sino-British agreement as initial reactions ranged from the relieved to the downright sceptical.

The Government Information Services (GIS) office said that 176,000 copies of the 46-page White Paper detailing the agreement had been distributed in the three hours after the speech by Sir Edward Youde, the Governor, to the Legislative Council.

"The demand for copies has been overwhelming and supplies in most district offices have been exhausted," said a GIS spokesman.

Hongkong's central district, the fulcrum of the world's third biggest financial centre, was crowded with people clutching copies of an agreement which would reveal what the future held in store for them.

One young Chinese computer engineer said: "It looks good but you can never trust them."

Others were more sceptical. "What the governor said in his address isn't surprising. It's what he didn't say that worries me," said an expatriate management consultant, Mr Roy Grubb.

## Far East reaction

## Japan, yes Taiwan, no

TAIPEI: Taiwan said it would not recognize the Hongkong agreement. The Foreign Ministry said: The Chinese Communists are a rebel group and have no right to conclude any agreement with a foreign country. Any agreement they conclude with Britain on matters regarding Hongkong will be null and void.

The ministry said a high-level government committee had been formed to work out measures to help those who rejected communist rule and wanted to resettle in Taiwan.

TOKYO: Japan welcomed the agreement, the acting Foreign Minister, Mr Takao Fujinami, said. The Japanese Government had been following Sino-British negotiations over Hongkong with great interest, in the belief that maintaining the prosperity and security of Hongkong would benefit Asia and the rest of the world.

KUALA LUMPUR: The Malaysian Government welcomed the successful conclusion of the negotiations, the acting Prime Minister, Datuk Musa Hitam, said. Malaysia hoped the agreement would enhance both external and internal confidence in Hongkong.

The Gibraltar analogy

Spain feels encouraged by Britain's settlement with China over Hongkong, and believes it could serve as a guide to achieving its own long-standing claim to sovereignty over Gibraltar.

That was the view in Madrid diplomatic circles yesterday after Señor Fernando Morán, the Spanish Foreign Minister, held his scheduled meeting with Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, on Tuesday night on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

"The solution on Hongkong is really the restoration of sovereignty to China. It seems to me the solution is very favourable to China and, by extrapolating a solution of this type to our aspirations concerning Gibraltar, would be very favourable to Spain", Señor Morán said.

The British version of the meeting was much more low-key, mentioning a review of the joint talks on Gibraltar by experts which have been going on for several months.

From Gibraltar, Sir Joshua Hassan, the Chief Minister, mustered a whole series of arguments to demonstrate the differences between the Rock and Hongkong.

The Spanish Government is anxious to find ways to build up almost any kind of momentum

for its sovereignty claim to Gibraltar, since it will be obliged to dismantle all the remaining frontier restrictions on people and goods between the Spanish mainland and the Rock when it joins the EEC.

Señor Morán did admit that Hongkong had its own distinct characteristics, but he placed his hopes on the possible effects the settlement could have generally on "the atmosphere prevailing in England."

Sir Joshua Hassan commented: "In Gibraltar we have virtual autonomy, our people's views count beforehand, there is no need to test reactions as with Hongkong now."



# Agreement lays down the path for Hongkong's future

The Draft Agreement on the future of Hong Kong, which was initiated by British & Chinese representatives in Peking yesterday, has been published as a 40-page White Paper in London and Hong Kong.

The following is the full text of the joint declaration of the British and Chinese governments on the question of Hong Kong, together with extracts from Annex I, in which the Chinese government elaborates different aspects of its policies towards the territory.

Annex I is broken into 14 paragraphs, which deal with the following subjects:  
I Constitution.  
II Legal system.  
III Judicial system.  
IV Employment.  
V Finance.  
VI Trade and economy.  
VII Currency.  
VIII Shipping.  
IX Aviation.  
X Education.  
XI Foreign affairs.  
XII Security.  
XIII Human rights.  
XIV Travel and right of abode.

The Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the People's Republic of China have reviewed with satisfaction the friendly relations existing between the two Governments and peoples in recent years and agreed that a proper negotiated settlement of the question of Hong Kong, which is left over from the past, is conducive to the maintenance of the prosperity and stability of Hong Kong and to the further strengthening and development of the relations between the two countries on a new basis. To this end, they have, after talks between the delegations of the two Governments, agreed to declare as follows:

1. The Government of the People's Republic of China declares that to recover the Hong Kong area (including Hong Kong) is the common aspiration of the entire Chinese people, and that it has decided to resume the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong with effect from 1 July 1997.

2. The Government of the United Kingdom declares that it will restore Hong Kong to the People's Republic of China with effect from 1 July 1997.

3. The Government of the People's Republic of China declares that the basic policies of the People's Republic of China regarding Hong Kong are as follows:

(1) Upholding national unity and territorial integrity and taking account of the history of Hong Kong and its realities, the People's Republic of China has decided to establish, in accordance with the provisions of article 31 of the constitution of the People's Republic of China, a Hong Kong Special Administrative Region upon resuming the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong.

(2) The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region will be directly under the authority of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region will enjoy a high degree of autonomy, except in foreign and defence affairs, which are the responsibilities of the Central People's Government.

(3) The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region will be vested with executive, legislative, and independent judicial power, including that of final adjudication. The laws currently in force in Hong Kong will remain basically unchanged.

(4) The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region will be composed of local inhabitants. The chief executive will be appointed by the Central People's Government.

(5) The current social and economic systems in Hong Kong will remain unchanged, and so will the life-style. Rights and freedoms, including those of the person, of speech, of the press, of assembly, of association, of travel, of movement, of choice of occupation, of strike, of choice of residence, of religious belief, will be ensured by law in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. Private property, ownership of enterprises, legitimate right of inheritance and foreign investment will be protected by law.

(6) The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region will retain the status of a free port and a separate customs territory.

(7) The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region will retain the status of an international financial centre, and its markets for foreign exchange, gold, securities and futures will continue. There will be free flow of capital. The Hong Kong dollar will continue to circulate and remain freely convertible.

(8) The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region will have independent finances. The Central People's Government will not levy taxes on the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

(9) The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region may establish mutually beneficial economic relations with the United Kingdom and other countries, whose economic interests in Hong Kong will be given due regard.

(10) Using the name of "Hong Kong, China", the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region may, on its own, maintain and develop economic and cultural relations and conclude relevant agreements with states, regions and relevant international organizations.

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region may on its own issue travel documents for entry into and exit from Hong Kong.

(11) The maintenance of public order in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region will be the responsibility of the Government of the People's Republic of China.

(12) The above-stated basic policies of the People's Republic of China regarding Hong Kong and the elaboration of them in Annex I to this joint declaration will be stipulated, in a basic law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, in the People's Republic of China, by the Congress of the People's Republic of China, and they will remain unchanged for 50 years.

4. The Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of the People's Republic of China declare that, during the transitional period between the date of the entry into force of this joint declaration and 30 June 1997, the Government of the United Kingdom will be responsible for the administration of Hong Kong with the object of maintaining and preserving its economic prosperity and social stability; and that the Government of the People's Republic of China will give its cooperation in this connection.

5. The Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of the People's Republic of China declare that, in order to ensure a smooth transfer of government in 1997, and with a view to the effective implementation of this joint declaration, a Sino-British Joint Liaison Group will be set up when this joint declaration enters into force; and that it will be set up and will function in accordance with the provisions of Annex II to this joint declaration.

6. The Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of the People's Republic of China declare that land leases in Hong Kong and other related matters will be dealt with in accordance with the provisions of Annex III to this joint declaration.

7. The Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of the People's Republic of China agree to implement the preceding declarations and the annexes to this joint declaration.



Smiling faces, hazy horizons: Setting the seal on the agreement in Peking, while the mainland mountains provide a brooding backdrop to the bustle of the colony.

8. This joint declaration is subject to ratification and shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of instruments of ratification, which shall take place in Peking before 30 June 1985. This joint declaration and its annexes shall be equally binding.

**ANNEX I**  
**Elaboration by the Government of the People's Republic of China of its basic policies regarding Hong Kong**  
The Government of the People's Republic of China elaborates the basic policies of the People's Republic of China regarding Hong Kong as set out in paragraph 3 of the joint declaration of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of the People's Republic of China on the question of Hong Kong as follows:

I  
The constitution of the People's Republic of China stipulates in Article 31 that "the state may establish special administrative regions when necessary. The systems to be instituted in special administrative regions shall be prescribed by laws enacted by the National People's Congress in the light of the specific conditions." In accordance with this article, the People's Republic of China shall, upon the resumption of the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong on 1 July 1997, establish the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China. The National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China shall enact and promulgate a basic law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as the Basic Law) in accordance with the constitution of the People's Republic of China, stipulating that after the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region the socialist system and socialist policies shall not be practised in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, and that the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall retain its previous capitalist system and lifestyle shall remain unchanged for 50 years.

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall be directly under the authority of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China and shall enjoy a high degree of autonomy. Except for foreign and defence affairs, which are the responsibilities of the Central People's Government, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall be vested with executive, legislative, and independent judicial power, including that of final adjudication. The Central People's Government shall authorize the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region to conduct on its own those external affairs specified in Section XI of this annex.

II  
After the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the laws previously in force in Hong Kong (i.e. the common law, rules of equity, ordinances, subordinate legislation and customary law) shall be maintained, save for those that contravene the Basic Law and subject to any amendment by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region legislature.

The legislative power of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall be vested in the legislature of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. The legislature may on its own authority enact laws in accordance with the provisions of the Basic Law and legal procedures, and report them to the Standing Committee of the

National People's Congress for the record. Laws enacted by the legislature which are in accordance with the Basic Law and legal procedures shall be regarded as valid.

III  
After the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, the judicial system previously practised in Hong Kong shall be maintained except for those changes consequent upon the vesting in the courts of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the power of final adjudication.

Judicial power in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall be vested in the courts of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. The courts shall exercise judicial power independently and free from any interference. Members of the judiciary shall be immune from legal action in respect of their judicial functions. The courts shall decide cases in accordance with the laws of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and may refer to precedents in other common law jurisdictions.

Judges of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region courts shall be appointed by the chief executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region acting in accordance with the recommendations of an independent commission composed of local judges, persons from the legal profession and other eminent persons. Judges shall be chosen by reference to their judicial qualities and may be recruited from other common law jurisdictions.

IV  
The power of final judgement of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall be vested in the court of final appeal in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, which may as required invite judges from other common law jurisdictions to sit on the court of final appeal.

A prosecuting authority of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall control criminal prosecutions free from any interference.

After the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, public servants previously serving in Hong Kong in all government departments, including the police department, and members of the judiciary, may all remain in employment and continue their service with pay, allowances, benefits and conditions of service no less favourable than before. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government shall pay to such persons who retire or complete their contracts, as well as to those who have retired before 1 July 1997, or to their dependents, pensions, gratuities, allowances and benefits due to them on terms no less favourable than before, and irrespective of their nationality or place of residence.

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government may employ British and other foreign nationals previously serving in the public service in Hong Kong, and may recruit British and other foreign nationals holding permanent identity cards of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region to serve as public servants at all levels, except as heads of major government departments (corresponding to branches or departments at secretary level) including the police department, and as deputy heads of some of those departments.

The above shall be employed only in their capacities and, like other public servants, shall be responsible to the Hong Kong

Special Administrative Region Government.

V  
The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall deal on its own with financial matters, including disposing of its financial resources and drawing up its budgets and its final accounts. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall report its budgets and final accounts to the Central People's Government for the record.

The Central People's Government shall not levy taxes on the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall use its financial resources exclusively for its own purposes and they shall not be handed over to the Central People's Government.

## Few qualify for UK residence

When sovereignty over Hong Kong is transferred from Britain to China on July 1, 1997, only a tiny minority of the population will have the automatic right of abode in the United Kingdom.

The remainder of an estimated population of about six million will have the right of abode in Hong Kong and be able to obtain permanent identity cards issued by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government (David Cross writes).

Based on the current population of 5,530,000, the breakdown will be:

20,000, mainly British expatriates, will have United Kingdom passports with the full right of abode here.

2,500,000, who currently have British Dependent Territories Citizen passports, will be entitled to a special new British passport which will not allow them, however, to settle in Britain.

2,830,000, who can travel abroad at present on a certificate of identity, will be entitled to a similar document to be issued by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

VI  
The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall maintain the capitalist economic and trade systems previously practised in Hong Kong. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government shall decide its economic and trade policies on its own. Rights concerning the ownership of property, including those relating to acquisition, use, disposal, inheritance and compensation for lawful deprivation (corresponding to the real value of the property concerned, freely convertible and paid without undue delay) shall continue to be protected by law.

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall retain the status of a free port and continue a free trade policy, including the free movement of goods and capital. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region may on its own maintain and develop economic and trade relations with all states and regions.

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall be a separate customs territory. It may participate in relevant international organizations and international trade agreements (including preferential trade arrangements), such as the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade and arrangements regarding international trade in textiles.

Acting under specific authorization from the Central People's Government, the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government may:

-renew or amend air service agreements and arrangements previously in force; in principle, all such agreements and arrangements may be renewed or amended in such previous agreements and arrangements being as far as possible maintained;

-negotiate and conclude new air service agreements providing routes for airlines incorporated and having their principal place of business in the Hong Kong Special Administrative

VII  
The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall retain the status of an international financial centre. The monetary and financial systems previously practised in Hong Kong, including the systems of regulation and supervision of deposit taking institutions and financial markets, shall be maintained.

The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government may decide its monetary and financial policies on its own. It shall safeguard the free operation of financial business and the free flow of capital within, into and out of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. No exchange control policy shall be applied in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. Markets for foreign exchange, gold, securities and futures shall continue.

The Hong Kong dollar, as the local legal tender, shall continue to circulate and remain freely convertible. The authority to issue Hong Kong currency shall be vested in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government.

VIII  
The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall maintain Hong Kong's previous systems of shipping management and shipping regulation, including the system for regulating conditions of seamen. The specific function and responsibilities of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government in the field of shipping shall be defined by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government on its own. Private shipping businesses and shipping-related businesses and private container terminals in Hong Kong may continue to operate freely.

IX  
The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall maintain the status of Hong Kong as a centre of international and regional aviation. Airlines incorporated and having their principal place of business in Hong Kong and civil aviation related businesses may continue to operate. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall continue the previous system of civil aviation management in Hong Kong, and keep its own aircraft register in accordance with provisions laid down by the Central People's Government concerning nationality marks and registration marks of aircraft.

The Central People's Government shall, in consultation with the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government, make arrangements providing for air services between the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and other parts of the People's Republic of China for airlines incorporated and having their principal place of business in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and other airlines of the People's Republic of China. All air service agreements between other parts of the People's Republic of China and other states and regions with stops at the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and air services between the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region and the states and regions with stops at other parts of the People's Republic of China shall be concluded by the Central People's Government.

For this purpose, the Central People's Government shall take account of the special conditions and economic interests of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government.

X  
The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government shall protect the rights and freedoms of inhabitants and other persons in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region according to law. The Hong Kong Special Administrative

Region Government shall maintain the rights and freedoms as provided for by the laws previously in force in Hong Kong, including freedom of the person, of speech, of the press, of assembly, of association, to form or join trade unions, of correspondence, of travel, of movement, of choice of occupation, of academic research, of belief, of inviolability of the home, the freedom to marry and the right to raise a family freely.

Every person shall have the right to confidential legal advice, access to the courts, representation in the courts by lawyers of his choice, and to obtain judicial remedies. Every person shall have the right to challenge the actions of the executive in the courts.

Religious organizations and believers elsewhere, and schools, hospitals and welfare institutions run by religious organizations may be continued.

The provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights as applied to Hong Kong shall remain in force.

XIV  
The following categories of persons shall have the right of abode in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, and, in accordance with the law of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, be qualified to obtain permanent identity cards issued by the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government, which state their right of abode:

-all Chinese nationals who were born or who have ordinarily resided in Hong Kong before or after the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for a continuous period of seven years or more, and persons of Chinese nationality born outside Hong Kong of such Chinese nationals;

-all other persons who have ordinarily resided in Hong Kong before or after the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for a continuous period of seven years or more and who have taken Hong Kong as their place of permanent residence before or after the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, and persons under 21 years of age who were born of such persons in Hong Kong before or after the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region;

-any other persons who had the right of abode only in Hong Kong before the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

The Central People's Government shall authorize the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government to issue, in accordance with the law, passports of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China to all Chinese nationals who hold permanent identity cards of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, and travel documents of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China to all other persons lawfully residing in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. The above passports and documents shall be valid for all states and regions and shall record the holder's right to return to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

Annex II sets out the terms of reference and working arrangements of a Joint Liaison Group through which Britain and China will continue to cooperate until the year 2000.

Annex III provides for the protection of existing land rights and for future land grants.

Finally, memoranda have been exchanged by the two governments, outlining the status after 1997 of people who are now British Dependent Territories citizens.

Region and rights for overflights and technical stops; and -negotiate and conclude provisional arrangements where no air service agreement with a foreign state or other region is in force.

X  
The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall maintain the educational system previously practised in Hong Kong. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government shall on its own decide policies in the fields of culture, education, science and technology, including policies regarding the educational system and its administration, the language of instruction, the allocation of funds, the examination system, the system of academic awards and the recognition of educational and technological qualifications. Institutions of all kinds, including those run by religious and community organizations, may retain their autonomy. They may continue to recruit staff and use teaching materials from outside the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

XI  
Subject to the principle that foreign affairs are the responsibility of the Central People's Government, representatives of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government may participate, as members of delegations of the Government of the People's Republic of China, in negotiations at the diplomatic level directly affecting the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region conducted by the Central People's Government. The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region may on its own, using the name "Hong Kong, China", maintain and develop relations and conclude and implement agreements with states, regions and relevant international organizations in the appropriate fields.

The application to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of international agreements to which the People's Republic of China is or becomes a party shall be decided by the Central People's Government, in accordance with the circumstances and needs of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, and after seeking the views of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government. International agreements to which the People's Republic of China is not a party but which are implemented in Hong Kong may remain implemented in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. The Central People's Government shall, as necessary, authorize and assist the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government to make appropriate arrangements for the application to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of other relevant international agreements. The Central People's Government shall take the necessary steps to ensure that the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall continue to retain its status in an appropriate capacity in those international organizations of which the People's Republic of China is a member and in which Hong Kong participates in one capacity or another.

The United Kingdom may establish a Consulate-General in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

XII  
The maintenance of public order in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region shall be the responsibility of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government. Military forces sent by the Central People's Government to be stationed in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for the purpose of defence shall not interfere in the internal affairs of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region. Expenditure for these military forces shall be borne by the Central People's Government.

XIII  
The Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government shall protect the rights and freedoms of inhabitants and other persons in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region according to law. The Hong Kong Special Administrative

Region Government shall maintain the rights and freedoms as provided for by the laws previously in force in Hong Kong, including freedom of the person, of speech, of the press, of assembly, of association, to form or join trade unions, of correspondence, of travel, of movement, of choice of occupation, of academic research, of belief, of inviolability of the home, the freedom to marry and the right to raise a family freely.

Every person shall have the right to confidential legal advice, access to the courts, representation in the courts by lawyers of his choice, and to obtain judicial remedies. Every person shall have the right to challenge the actions of the executive in the courts.

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-all Chinese nationals who were born or who have ordinarily resided in Hong Kong before or after the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for a continuous period of seven years or more, and persons of Chinese nationality born outside Hong Kong of such Chinese nationals;

-all other persons who have ordinarily resided in Hong Kong before or after the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region for a continuous period of seven years or more and who have taken Hong Kong as their place of permanent residence before or after the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, and persons under 21 years of age who were born of such persons in Hong Kong before or after the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region;

-any other persons who had the right of abode only in Hong Kong before the establishment of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

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Finally, memoranda have been exchanged by the two governments, outlining the status after 1997 of people who are now British Dependent Territories citizens.



Cradock's People: Members of Britain's Hongkong negotiating team at the Foreign Office. Left to right: Jonathan Powell, Olivia Walker, Christopher Hunt, Tony Galsworthy, Sir Percy Cradock, Trevor Mound, Richard Hoare, Jane-Ain Klowek, Anthony Forester-Bennett.



## Superpowers' tentative contact

## Chernenko's salute to detente ignores overtures by Reagan

From Richard Owen, Moscow

President Chernenko yesterday spoke of the need for detente and said Moscow was ready for "extensive cooperation with all who are really interested in a decisive improvement in international relations". But he made no mention of President Reagan's overtures this week.

Mr Chernenko referred to "dangerous tensions" between the superpowers, and said he was neither optimistic nor fatalistic about the world situation. This reinforced the impression among diplomats here that, whatever the result of tomorrow's meeting between Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Foreign Minister, and President Reagan, the process of Soviet-American rapprochement may be gradual, with Moscow cautiously feeling its way towards an accommodation with the Administration.

Mr Chernenko, aged 73, was speaking during a meeting in the Kremlin with Mr Kalevi Sorsa, the Prime Minister of Finland. Mr Sorsa met Mr Nikolai Tikhonov, the 79-year-old Prime Minister, for talks on Tuesday which concentrated on Finnish-Soviet economic ties.

Mr Chernenko's talks with Mr Sorsa, aged 53, were the

Soviet leader's first encounter with a foreign politician since he disappeared during the summer for nearly two months. Mr Chernenko's deteriorating health rose last weekend after a heavily edited broadcast by the Soviet leader to Finnish and Soviet viewers, in which he appeared badly short of breath.

He had previously handed medals to cosmonauts and a Greek Communist, creating the impression that he was exercising the ceremonial functions of President only.

His lengthy address to the writers' union on Tuesday, which laid down cultural policy, and his meeting with Mr Sorsa yesterday, have calmed speculation, though both occasions were carefully staged and sources said Mr Chernenko was clearly a sick man.

Moscow television showed film of Mr Chernenko, but there were few close-ups or shots of him walking. Soviet viewers said Mr Chernenko was still politically active and exercising authority, however.

In his speech on Tuesday, the Soviet leader accused the United States of not wanting normal relations with Russia and ignored Mr Reagan's

conciliatory speech at the UN on Monday.

*Pravda* yesterday revealed to Russians for the first time that Mr Reagan had put forward proposals for improving Soviet-American relations two days earlier. The Soviet press has still not told readers that Mr Reagan is to meet Mr Gromyko tomorrow.

*Pravda* carried a Tass report describing Mr Reagan's espousal of peace as a ploy to camouflage Washington's true foreign policy and its "interventionism" around the globe.

Mr Reagan's claim that he wanted to end the arms race was "absolutely groundless", Tass said, and his UN speech "contained no indication of any change in the essence of American policy".

*Pravda* carried a front-page report of Mr Chernenko's remarks, with a photograph of the Politburo which showed Mr Mikhail Gorbachev. Mr Chernenko's 53-year-old heir-apparent, sitting in the row reserved for senior Kremlin leaders — the Kremlin "front bench" — between Marshal Ustinov, the Defence Minister, and Mr Tikhonov.

## Gromyko smile lifts clouds at UN

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington

It stopped raining just as Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, arrived at the US Mission at the United Nations yesterday for talks with his American counterpart, Mr George Shultz — a coincidence immediately seized upon by observers as a portent that the climate in US-Soviet relations may also be about to improve.

Those who claim to understand the symbolism of Soviet posturing also noted that Mr Gromyko was smiling as he entered the building, something that he carefully avoided doing when he listened to President Reagan's speech to the General Assembly on Monday, in which the President called for constructive negotiations with Moscow.

That smile, taken together with the assessment of several European foreign ministers who have already held private talks with Mr Gromyko that "a little of the ice has been broken", raised hopes that the Soviet leadership may respond positively to the President's proposal for better relations.

However, US officials tried to dampen expectations that yesterday's meeting with Mr Shultz, or the talks he is due to have with President Reagan tomorrow, will produce tangible results.

Even if the two meetings do succeed in the air of misunderstanding between the two

superpowers, the officials said the Soviet Union would need time to reflect on what Mr Reagan tells Mr Gromyko.

Yesterday's meeting was intended essentially to prepare the ground for tomorrow's session at the White House. Mr Shultz elaborated on the President's United Nations speech, particularly his proposal for establishing a framework — an "umbrella" — as Mr Reagan put it — to chart the course of arms control talks into the next century. The two men also explored the prospects of resuming nuclear arms talks once the United States elections are over.

American officials said that, given the impasse that has existed on the arms control front since the end of last year when the Soviet Union, broke off talks on medium-range and long-range nuclear missiles, neither side would make specific proposals for their resumption.

The same officials also emphasized that they did not expect specific negotiating proposals to be made at the Reagan-Gromyko meeting either. "Our main objective is to clear the air... and to renew a process of dialogue after this period of impasse."

The Shultz-Gromyko meeting took place in the office of Mrs Jean Kirkpatrick, the United States representative at the United Nations.

## Moscow defends Unesco

From Our Correspondent Paris

The Soviet Union, which has always attached importance to Unesco as a forum of influence in the Third World — and as an espionage base — yesterday defended the much criticized organization and attacked the United States for trying to bring Unesco "into line with US interests".

At the opening of the one-month session of Unesco's Executive Council, it presented a long document, signed by Mr Viktor Stukalin, a Deputy Foreign Minister, which was virtually a point-by-point attempt to refute US charges that Unesco had become grossly inefficient and too pro-Soviet in many of its programmes.

Last week a confidential report by the General Accounting Office of the US Congress severely criticized Unesco management and power accumulated by its director general Mr Amadou Mbou of Senegal.

The United States pays 25 per cent of Unesco's budget and has threatened to pull out next year if significant reforms are not undertaken.

A 13-nation Unesco committee has suggested reforms which are believed to fall far short of US demands. The Soviet Union denounced the United States for bringing what it called financial pressure to bear on Mr Mbou.



The face of defiance: Smoke billows from burning tyres as Shia Muslims in Burj Rahal village protest at the Israeli occupation.

## Israelis prepare troop withdrawal

From Moshe Brilliant, Tel Aviv

Mr Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister, said yesterday that Mr Yitzhak Rabin, his Defence Minister, was preparing a plan for complete Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon which, he hoped, would enable the Government to make a final decision in a few weeks. But implementation will require several months, he added.

However, Mr Peres said in a radio interview that the withdrawal also required political arrangements, including the renewal of the mandate of the UN force in Lebanon with a new deployment, taking into account the possibility of an Israeli withdrawal.

The Israeli leader said he saw no

alternative to the "South Lebanese Army" filling the vacuum in the southern part of the country, despite the massacre of Shia Muslims by Druze members of the force last week.

"The massacre... was unfortunately not the first one and I'm afraid not the last one," Mr Peres said. "That's one of the reasons why the Israeli Army should not remain in Lebanon — because our Army has different norms and different standards."

"In Lebanon, there can be only Lebanese forces, with their habits and their way of life."

EXTRA TAXES: The Israeli Govern-

ment has decided to tax education, old age pensions and children's allowances as part of the programme to cut back living standards to the 1982 level.

Kindergarten, elementary and secondary school education are now free, but it was decided to introduce a fee equivalent to \$3, payable by some 350,000 families. Some 70,000 families living below the poverty line will be exempted.

Old age pensions will be liable to income tax if beneficiaries' other income is at least 10 per cent of the average wage, while children's allowances will be taxed if breadwinners are in the 45 per cent income tax bracket.

## Syria and Libya unleash fury at Jordan

From Robert Fisk, Beirut

Jordan's decision to restore diplomatic relations with Egypt continued yesterday to provoke the expected cries of anguish and treason from Syria and Libya, the two nations which have done most to turn the largest Arab state into a pariah.

The government-controlled Damascus newspaper *As Thawra* promised to "punish" Jordan for what it described as a new Camp David while Libya demanded a total Arab boycott against the kingdom.

The response was well-prepared, for King Hussein had long been making it known he was impatient with Arab refusals to permit Egypt's reentry to the Arab League.

As usual, the arguments over Egypt's moral right to regain its place among the Arab nations merely emphasized the myth of Arab unity. It also underlined the hypocrisy of the debate.

Iraq has long been accepting Egyptian military assistance while continuing to frown on the Government which still maintains the Camp David treaty with Israel. Meanwhile, King Hussein of Jordan, despite the rhetoric from Damascus, maintains close contact by telephone with President Assad of Syria. None of this, of course, affected yesterday's expressions of outrage.

The official Libyan news agency accused Jordan of ignoring an Arab League decision to ostracize Egypt in 1979, adding: "Unless all Arab leaders" take an immediate and firm decision to Boycott the Jordanian regime totally in order to force its retreat, the Arab League and all its summits will be finished."

Egypt's decision, the news agency said, was a shameful one, "a treacherous stab in the back to the Arab nation" which reflected Jordan's desire "to give the Zionist enemy a pretext to liquidate the Palestinian cause".

In Damascus, *As Thawra* took a similarly predictable line. "Syria will not allow a new Camp David in its neighbourhood," it said, "... and will not tolerate Jordan becoming a centre of espionage and aggression against Syria."

In the usual language of anger adopted on such occasions, the Damascus daily *Tishrin* announced on its front page: "The plotters will not succeed."

King Hussein apparently informed President Saddam Hussein of Iraq in advance of Jordan's decision, telephoning him on Tuesday under the pretext of sending good wishes at the start of the Muslim New Year.

In the Gulf, where the

kingdoms and emirates wish neither to anger the Iraqis, who could threaten them, nor the king, who might one day have to help them fight Iran, little official comment was made, save for Oman which gave its blessing to the restoration of diplomatic relations with Cairo.

In fact, Jordan's decision almost certainly will be followed by other Arab nations in the near future. Iraq is likely to be the next candidate. Mr Yasser Arafat's visit to Egypt and his reception by President Mubarak ensured that the Palestine Liberation Organization would not condemn Jordan.

Jordan reestablished economic relations with Egypt last December and Iraq started receiving military supplies from Cairo before the assassination of President Sadat.

## Arms flown out of Chad as French withdraw

N'Djamena. (Reuters) — Two French military cargo planes loaded with arms and ammunition took off for France yesterday on the second day of the Franco-Libyan disengagement from Chad.

A French military spokesman said the two DC8s each carried 20 tonnes of military equipment, including ground-to-ground and ground-to-air missiles.

On Tuesday the French handed over outposts at Salal and Arada to Chad army units in a brief ceremony. The French pulled back to the towns of Moussoro and Biltine, further south of the "red line" separating French and Libyan forces.

There was no news here on whether the estimated 5,000 Libyan troops in northern Chad were abiding by the agreement.

## Operatic tale of three tenors

New York (AP) — The Metropolitan Opera's performance of *Tales of Hoffman* on Tuesday went through three tenors before the first act was over.

Neil Shicoff was listed as Hoffman but was ill. William Lewis took his place, despite a throat infection, but his voice failed, and he mouthed the words as Kenneth Riegel sang the part from the orchestra pit.

## Afghans down Soviet plane

Delhi (AP) — A Soviet military plane was shot down by anti-communist guerrillas in Afghanistan's Logar Valley at the weekend, killing 30 to 50 people, a Western diplomatic report said. The aircraft — apparently an Antonov transport plane — was hit by a rocket last Saturday near Sarakhar, 30 miles south of Kabul.

## On spy charge



Manfred Roach, former manager of the West German aircraft and spacecraft company, MBB, who faces charges of selling secrets to the Soviet Union.

## Dali 'capable'

Madrid — Medical tests have found that Salvador Dali, the 80-year-old surrealist painter, is still capable of running his own affairs and will not be declared "incapacitated" after suffering severe burns in a fire at his home.

## Uneasy rider

Tokyo (AP) — A construction worker, broke but anxious to reach his job, jumped on the roof of an overnight express and clung there for more than six hours as the train travelled 227 miles at 70 mph to reach his destination, police said.

## New style of Soviet diplomacy

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

Despite the impression from the Politburo that Moscow's foreign policy is lacking any clear guidance, Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, has been conducting a vigorous diplomatic offensive during the first days of the UN General Assembly.

In bilateral meetings leading up to yesterday's talks with Mr George Shultz, the United States Secretary of State, Mr Gromyko has managed to give his French and West German counterparts intimations that the Soviet line is softening and

that a better atmosphere for East-West relations now exists.

He has also met his Egyptian and Israeli counterparts for the first time in eight and three years, respectively. He asked Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli Foreign Minister, to take part in a Middle East conference which would bring the Soviet Union directly into the peace process.

His meeting with Mr Abdel Meguid, the Egyptian Foreign Minister, coincided with a restoration of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Mr Gromyko had two days of talks with Mr Wu Xieqian, the Chinese Foreign Minister, marking the first contact between the two sides at that level since 1959, and at a time when Washington has deftly been playing the China card.

Diplomatic observers say that Mr Gromyko's active diplomacy in New York will need to be followed up with something concrete from Moscow before the international communist world decides that the Soviet Union is no longer in a state of debilitating inertia.

## 108-day voyage to freedom

From Martha de la Cal Lisbon

After an odyssey of 108 days at sea in a 35-ft fishing boat two Portuguese and four Angolans, who fled the Angolan port of Lobito, reached Lisbon on Tuesday.

They are the Portuguese owner of the boat, Senhor Mario Ramos Ferreira, aged 52, his Angolan wife and his daughter aged four, the captain Senhor Jose Manuel Tinoco da Silva, aged 28, and two Angolan crew. The Angolans have asked for political asylum, which could prove an embarrassment for Portugal. Relations with Angola are already strained.

At the Santa Amaro dock, where the boat, the *Atalaya* is tied up, Captain Tinoco da Silva described why they fled.

"The Communist Government wanted to nationalize our boat because we wouldn't give them our fish. If we hadn't left Angola, they would have taken our boat and put us in prison or shot us," he said.

The six made their 6,000-mile journey with only a compass and radio on board. They ate only flour and cornmeal — which they bartered for fish in Angola.

## A bizarre show at Hitler trial

From Michael Binyon Bonn

The Hamburg court hearing the forged Hitler diaries case was treated yesterday to a bizarre slide show of the objects found in the homes of the two accused men, which included swastikas, Nazi coins, tin soldiers and underwear belonging to ex-President Idi Amin, the former Ugandan dictator.

The slides were taken by police searching the house of Herr Gerd Heidemann, the former reporter for *Stern* who is accused of defrauding the magazine out of more than DM9m (£2.4m). They found he had written his writing desk with objects that once adorned Hitler's desk and kept behind a curtain a flag with a swastika on a red background which Herr Heidemann said was Hitler's "Martyr's flag".

Among the other objects collected by the reporter were underpants that had once belonged to ex-president Amin. Still, photographs were also projected on to the court wall of the desk and spartan "soldier's bed" with army uniforms displayed above it belonging to Herr Konrad Kujawa, the Stuttgart dealer who has admitted forging the diaries.

## Dutchmen admit roles in Heineken kidnap

Amsterdam (Reuters) — Two Dutchmen admitted in court yesterday that they were involved in the kidnapping last year of the Dutch brewery magnate, Mr Freddie Heineken.

In statements read to the court, Martin Erkmans, 20, said he took food to Heineken, while Jan Boellaard, 35, said he built two makeshift, unheated cells where Mr Heineken and his chauffeur, Mr Ab Doderer, were held for three weeks last November.

Mr Heineken, aged 60, one of Europe's richest men, was

seized with Mr Doderer by five masked men on November 9 outside the Amsterdam offices of Heineken Breweries.

A third accused, Freddy Meijer, aged 30, retracted an alleged confession to police, saying he could not remember anything about the kidnapping. All three men are charged with extortion and unlawful detention and face a maximum prison sentence of 16 years. Another two accused Dutchmen are awaiting a French court decision on their appeal against extradition.

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£ 4,000	£ 42.50	£15,000	£159.38
£ 5,000	£ 53.13	£18,000	£191.25
£ 6,000	£ 63.75	£20,000	£212.50
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## Tyrolese admit fear of being 'small Lebanon'

From John Earle

Signor Reinhold Messner, the mountaineer, was among a delegation from the Alto Adige (South Tyrol) which called on President Sandro Pertini yesterday to express concern at the deterioration in community relations in their largely German-speaking Italian province.

One of the delegation of six said the present situation could lead to violence and possibly civil war. "We do not want to become a small Lebanon," he added.

Almost two-thirds of the 430,000 inhabitants of the province speak German, and another third Italian, while nearly 20,000 in two Alpine valleys speak Ladin.

Under a 1981 law all inhabitants have had to opt for one of the three ethnic communities, on the basis of which jobs in the public service and housing mortgages are allocated. The delegation was from the Movement for an Alternative South Tyrol, whose members refuse to declare for any of the separate communities, believing in the harmonious co-existence of all.

Signor Messner said: "In heavily accentuated Italian, there was not a single German word in the political party, but I felt that the rights of our territory are being crushed

## Tense start by Karpov

Moscow (Reuters)

The world chess champion, Anatoly Karpov showed signs of difficulty defending with the black pieces at the start of game six of his title defence.

His challenger, Gary Kasparov, chose a different variation against Karpov's habitual

Queen's Indian defence, but one not considered to grant a real advantage.

Perhaps fearing a prepared improvement by Kasparov, the champion looked tense and uncertain at this early stage of the game.

## Pretoria ban on anti-apartheid priest removed

From Our Own Correspondent Johannesburg

The South African Government has "unbanned" its most famous turbulent priest, Dr Beyers Naude, a leading figure in the Dutch Reformed Church, to which most Afrikaansers belong.

Dr Naude's wife, Ilse, told *The Times* that the notice that the ban had been lifted was delivered to their home in a Johannesburg suburb yesterday afternoon. "It was wonderful news and quite unexpected."

Under the ban, Dr Naude was prohibited from attending any political meeting or gathering or from being quoted, or from travelling outside a prescribed area. When it was renewed in 1982, it was relaxed to the extent of allowing him to attend social gatherings and be in the company of more than one person.

Botha ready, page 7

## Setback for Alfonsin

From a Correspondent, Buenos Aires

Not seek an extension of the deadline.

"Without a complete panorama revealed in the light of proven deeds, it would be impossible to form an opinion based on the truth." The Supreme Council said in a message on Tuesday to the appeal court.

The message indicates that the Supreme Council had formed several opinions decidedly in favour of the officers, who are charged with responsibility for the "disappearance" of at least 9,000 people during the "dirty war" after the 1976 military coup.

The military court defended "all the decrees and operating orders" related to what it called "the military action against terrorist subversion," and maintained that it would only be possible to charge the commanding officers "indirectly" for exercising insuf-

## Military court justifies 'dirty war'

From a Correspondent, Buenos Aires

cient control over how those orders were carried out.

The court also questioned "the objectivity and credibility" of testimony against the officers, largely provided by relatives of missing people and by people who had been detained and tortured.

The testimony, the court said, might have been tainted by emotional or ideological factors.

The Supreme Council's message evoked angry reaction from civilian leaders. Senator Antonio Berthongary, a member of President Alfonsin's radical party, called the statement "a terrible judicial error".

150 من الاموال



## Botha ready to grant blacks long-term residence in the Cape

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

The South African President, Mr P. W. Botha, has announced what appears to be an important shift in government policy on black settlement in the Western Cape, an area hitherto reserved as far as possible for whites and mixed-race coloureds.

At a congress of the National Party in Cape Town on Tuesday, Mr Botha won support for extending the system of 99-year leasehold to blacks in the Western Cape, and scrapping the designation of this region as a Coloured labour preference area.

There remains doubt about the scope and application of the new policy, and in particular whether the leasehold system will be introduced in all black townships in the area or only in some. Mr Botha made clear that an uncontrolled influx of blacks would not be permitted.

The President acknowledged, however, in terms not heard from a South African leader before, that the drift of population from the poor rural areas to the cities was an unavoidable feature of any developing economy and one which could not be arrested by force.

"Whether people like it or not, the free Western world is extremely sensitive to large-scale removals of people who are moved just for the sake of moving them. Also, in South Africa there are more and more

people who for various reasons display a sensitivity in this regard. We simply cannot carry on as if we had no need to heed them."

The 99-year leasehold was introduced into black areas in other parts of the country - outside the tribal reserves - soon after Mr Botha succeeded John Vorster as Prime Minister in 1978, but the Government had hitherto resisted extending it to the Western Cape, home of most of the country's 2.7 million Coloureds.

Since 1955, any employer in the Western Cape wanting workers has had to apply to the Department of Labour, to see if any Coloured job-hunters were available. Only if there were not could he employ a black. Mr Botha now says that blacks "must be able to compete on an even footing with others in the labour market."

Under existing policy, the Government has tried vainly to control urbanization of blacks in the Cape by a rigorous pass system, by limiting housing and land available to them, by denying them permanent tenure, and by razing squatter camps and deporting their inhabitants back to the tribal homelands.

Mr Botha does not say all this will now end, but he does imply a far more flexible approach, with controlled urbanization allowed and even encouraged.

"What is required is a lessening of red tape. I believe we are bleeding to death because of too many regulations and rules. We can go far with a greater measure of freedom of movement."

One of the reasons for granting 99-year leases, Mr Botha said, was that the state alone could not meet the costs of the extra housing that urbanization would entail, and in providing houses for their workers except on a permanent basis.

The one area specified by Mr Botha for the introduction of 99-year leases is Khayelitsha, a new black township which the Government is building on False Bay, about 20 miles outside Cape Town.

● **SOWETO:** About 100,000 black students stayed away from classes yesterday when black schools reopened after an extended vacation following boycotts and rioting (AP reports).

In the Vaal area, 40 miles south of Johannesburg, where the worst rioting took place, none of the 93,000 students attended classes. Mr Edgar Posselt, spokesman for the Department of Education and Training, said:

The Vaal students were not boycotting because of school-related grievances, but stayed away due to continued unrest in the area's black township.



Bicentennial birth: The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh are introduced to New Brunswick's first bicentennial baby, Daniel Val Leblanc, born in January, and his parents at an official dinner in Moncton.

## Queen gives credit to French and Indians

From John Best, Ottawa

The Queen, in the first speech of her two-week Canadian tour, barked back to the English-French colonial wars of the eighteenth century in praising New Brunswick's evolution into a harmonious society.

Speaking in Moncton on Tuesday night at a glittering dinner given by Mr Richard Hatfield, the Provincial Premier, the Queen referred to New Brunswick's settlement by Indian nations as well as by Arcadian French,

United Empire Loyalists and various European peoples.

"The French and the British at first fought over this land but their descendants learned to live here in harmony and to have a common purpose," New Brunswick's population is about 40 per cent Arcadian French.

The Queen wished New Brunswick a happy two hundredth birthday - the province was settled by United Empire

Loyalists from the American colonies in 1784 - and paid tribute to the role played by New Brunswick in the patriation of the Canadian constitution three years ago.

Yesterday the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh flew to Ottawa from Moncton for a three-hour visit before motoring to the St Lawrence Seaway town of Morrisburg. There they were to spend the night on board the royal yacht Britannia.

## NZ envoy presses for widening of Anzus pact

From Our Correspondent Wellington

Sir Wallace Rowling, the former Labour Prime Minister who is to become New Zealand's Ambassador in Washington, said last night that there was a strong case for renegotiation of the Anzus defence agreement linking the United States, Australia and New Zealand.

Anzus could not be regarded as relevant in its present form, he said. It had been formed in the aftermath of the Pacific war with Japan and conditions which prevailed then no longer applied. He believed a new treaty could go beyond a straight military alliance, taking on board all factors of mutual interest among three friendly nations.

It would be regrettable if the Anzus debate led to any element of confrontation. The intention of the present Labour Government to ban visits by nuclear warships and to seek renegotiation of the Anzus treaty had always been Labour policy, Sir Wallace said.

● **NEW YORK:** Mr David Lange, the New Zealand Prime Minister, has confirmed that nuclear weapons will not be permitted in his country. This - as "the fundamental bottom line" in negotiations with the United States (Reuters reports).

"For New Zealanders it has become a very mainstream, Presbyterian Church, conservative issue."

## General strike over extraditions disrupts Spain's Basque region

From Harry Debelius, Madrid

A general strike in the Basque region of Spain in reaction to the French government's decision to extradite three accused Basque terrorists to Spain had mixed results yesterday. It was most effective in San Sebastian and some smaller industrial towns in the region.

The reaction to the French decision was also marked by violence, including the first extremist attack on a member of the two-year-old Basque regional police force, a border blockade by lorry-drivers, the machine-gunning of two French lorries, blocking of roads and railways and burning of cars, buses and lorries.

About midnight on Tuesday three people attacked a French lorry with automatic weapons fire at Vergara, near San Sebastian. The driver was uninjured. When a member of the Herzkaria, the Basque police force, intervened the attackers opened fire on him. The policeman returned their fire and escaped their bullets.

The day before, also in Vergara, gunmen were reported to have attacked another French lorry, hitting it with 20 bullets. The driver was not hurt. Demonstrators set three French lorries and several buses and cars on fire early yesterday near San Sebastian. These incidents led French lorry drivers to block border crossing points at the western end of the Pyrenees with their vehicles on Tuesday afternoon. They de-

manded to be escorted through the troubled areas in convoy by Spanish police.

● **PAU, France:** Two offices of the ruling Socialist Party were bombed in south-western France during the night in protest against the Government's decision to extradite the Basque separatists to Spain (Reuters reports).

In Pau, main town of the Atlantic Pyrenees, the one-storey offices of the party were gutted by a fire apparently started by an incendiary device thrown through a window or a skylight, police said.

Nothing remained but blackened walls and gables saying "Spanish police equal torture. No to the extraditions." A caller telephoned a local newspaper soon afterwards, claiming responsibility for the attacks on behalf of an "anti-extradition committee."

In Narbonne, police said the local Socialist Party office was destroyed by an 11lb bomb. A nearby slogan said: "No to the Basque extraditions." Nobody was hurt in either attack.

The Council of State, France's highest administrative authority, was expected to rule later on whether the Government and courts had followed correct procedures in handling the extradition case after a final appeal by lawyers for the three Basques.

## Change of name for Mugabe's party refused

From Jan Raath Harare

The intention of Zimbabwe's ruling party, Zanu (PF), to change its name and revert to its origins of 20 years ago has been thwarted.

At its congress in August the party resolved to drop the PF from its name and become known as Zanu. But the move was opposed in the High Court by the Zanu party of the Rev Ndabaningi Sithole, under whose leadership a Zanu party was founded in 1965. Mr Robert Mugabe, now Prime Minister of Zimbabwe, was then a senior member of Zanu but in 1975 he and Mr Sithole parted company.

In the High Court yesterday Mrs Justice Therese Scott granted an application by Mr Sithole's Zanu.

## Troops will quit Golden Temple by the weekend

Amritsar (AP) - Indian army soldiers will withdraw from the Golden Temple by the weekend after an announcement by the Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, a military source said yesterday.

The official, who refused to be named, said the few soldiers guarding the holiest Sikh shrine would be pulled out after "we receive orders from Delhi". Indian news agencies earlier reported that all troops were withdrawn on Tuesday from the temple complex.

Mrs Gandhi said in a nationwide broadcast on Tuesday night that shrine buildings damaged in June's army siege had been repaired and a military presence was no longer needed. She did not specify when soldiers would be pulled out.

## Clashes feared at school gates in Malta

From Austin Sammut, Valletta

Ministers accompanied by troops and police and government supporters will be at the gates of private schools in Malta to prevent any attempt to reopen them for the coming school year, the Government has made clear.

The nine private schools usually reopen on October 1, but this year the date has yet to be announced. The parent-teachers' associations, who have been coordinating the fight against new government controls over private schools, have instructed parents to accompany their children to school on the first day and observers fear clashes will result.

There has already been serious violence between police and opposition supporters: last Friday police used tear gas against demonstrators for the first time over Malta.

has been extended for a three days, until the end of the week. The teachers' union, the Movement for United Teachers, said 84 per cent obeyed the strike.

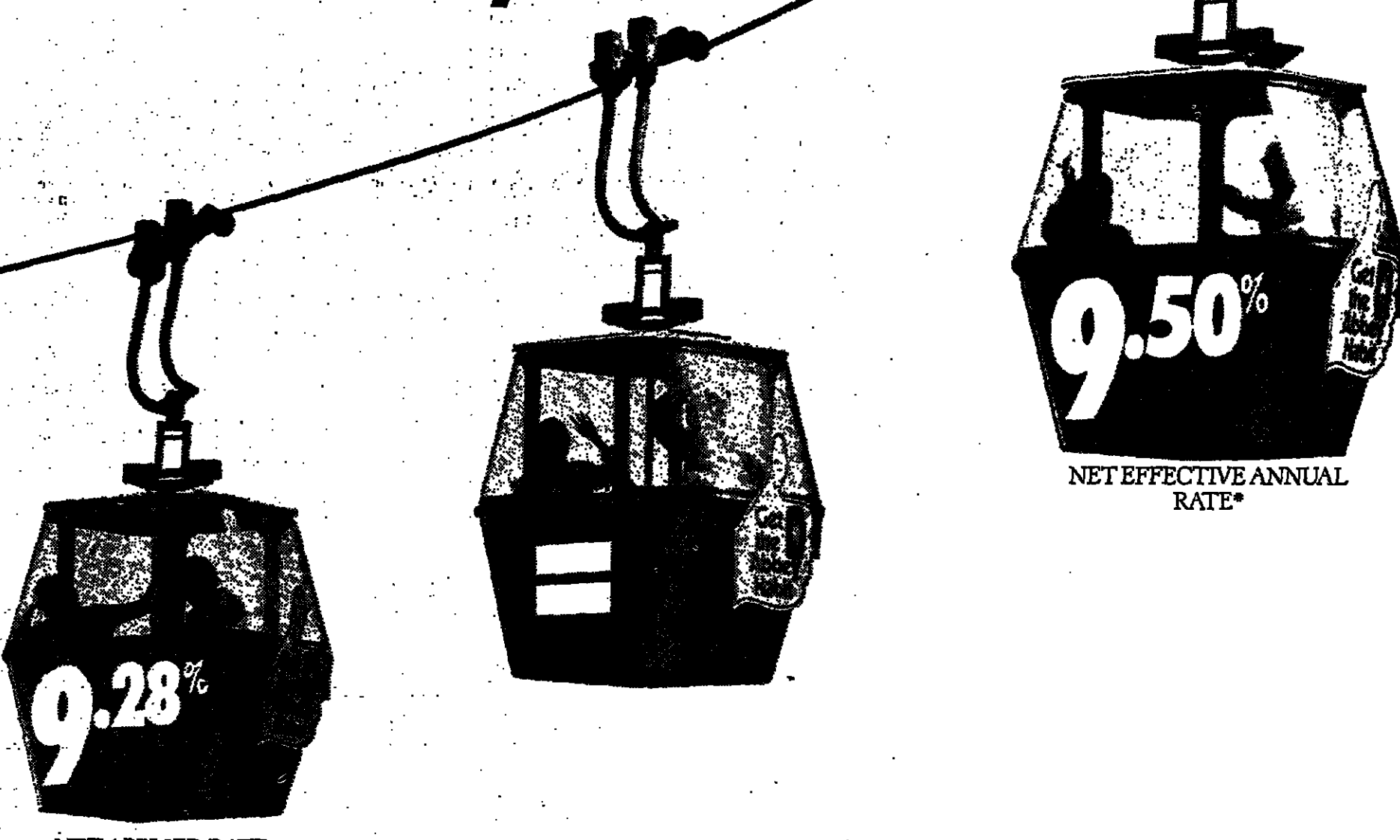
● **THE MALTESE CIVIL COURT** has annulled only the regulation issued pursuant to the Land Registration Amendment Act, and not the Act itself, as was suggested in our report yesterday.

● **VANDALS STRIKE:** The main office of Malta's teacher's union was vandalized on Tuesday night soon after the labour group extended its teacher's strike (AP reports).

It said "Unknown thugs" using a metal pole damaged furniture and art works in the building. The cost of the damage has not been assessed, but the union said "it is quite substantial".

The union was no immediate comment from police or the Government.

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**ABBNEY NATIONAL SEVEN DAY ACCOUNT**



# The laureate of English ballet

Sir Frederick Ashton, who turned 80 this month, did not feel festive about his birthday. "I don't see the point of celebrating the fact that you're past it," he says. Princess Margaret is to give a party for him at Kensington Palace in October. The Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet will perform an Ashton programme on October 5 and the Royal Ballet will also pay tribute to him in a gala at the start of their new season at Covent Garden on October 18.

In August, Ashton moved from his pretty Chelsea home to a small flat above a dental surgery in Knightsbridge. It is close to the Tube, by which he can travel easily to Covent Garden and the studios at Baron's Court. Like Dame Ninette de Valois, who also travels by public transport, Ashton is very frugal - a legacy from the war, he says - but unlike de Valois, he loves to be indulged as well.

His life is divided between London and Suffolk. In London, Ashton's new, push-button telephone rings regularly. It might be the Royal Ballet consulting him about a cast change, a nuisance caller or, more likely, friends inviting him out. Ashton has no secretary and dreads the inevitable letters from biographers, charities entreating his patronage, or bills. "I'm very middle-class and always pay bills immediately," he says.

The other envelopes get added to a batch he keeps in a plastic bag, carries to Suffolk planning to tackle them there, and then brings back to London unanswered. Ashton's country routine is completely sedentary, he says.

"People don't believe me when they ask me what I've done all day and I say: 'Nothing. I do nothing. I sit and stare. I listen to music on Radio 3. I'm like a housewife. I leave the radio on all day. I'm too lazy to put a record on.'"

However, the beautiful garden of his Suffolk home, which he designed and planted himself, belies his claims of inertia in the past at any rate. The main feature is its *Le Noire*-inspired stage of yew and box clipped into pompons, cones and candelabras. There is more than one box in front of the house, which is mock-Gothic and painted Suffolk pink.

It is where his roots are. His mother grew up on a farm nearby, and he was brought over from Peru to be christened at the church in Yaxley. Ashton has always avoided county socializing and is reluctant to have people to stay. "I don't mind chums like Billy and Alex (William Chappell and Alexander Grant), who cook for themselves, but I can't cope with it otherwise. Especially when I work and become utterly absorbed and can't think or talk about anything else."

Which prompts the question whether or not he will continue to choreograph in his eighties. He says he no longer feels the urge to create, but admits to being preoccupied with a

## THE TIMES PROFILE

### Sir Frederick Ashton

particular piece of music. "I'm not telling you what it is, just that it's short. Very short."

The Royal Ballet has tended lately to employ Ashton as their laureate: his last two ballets were *pieces d'occasion* and made, he said, with guns pointed at his head. *Rhapsody*, which celebrated the Queen Mother's eightieth birthday, was created on Baryshnikov, who agreed to appear with the company only on condition that Ashton choreographed a ballet for him. *Varli Capricci* was made for the Britain Salutes New York Festival last year because Jane Herman of the Metropolitan Opera said there could be no Royal Ballet tour without a new ballet by Sir Fred. Both works radiate a wonderful exuberance.

Ashton claims this is because his following in New York is far greater than in London. "It was only after I'd had a success in the States that people began to think anything of me here." He talks enthusiastically about how demonstrative New Yorkers were towards him when he was there for the Met gala in May. "Bursting into applause at the stage-door and grabbing at me and saying, 'How wonderful you're here! Sweet. And so heartening.' His response is to 'play up to them like mad', embellishing and prolonging his already mythical curtain calls.

Ashton attributes his success in America to the fact that he never stayed there. They may love me, but they don't love me more than Balanchine." With a wry eyebrow raised, Ashton draws deeply on his cigarette. He always smokes very theatrically like the Hostess in *Les Biches*. His hand posed gracefully away from his face. I ask him if he ever discussed choreography with George Balanchine, the American choreographer. "No, because whenever I talked to him he held forth. I don't think he thought anything of me at all. He liked *Faust* and *Wedding Bouquet*, but I don't think anything else."

"He would always say: 'You mustn't follow the music slavishly; you must let it hit you.' Well, I'm apt to follow it slavishly. He was theoretically more musical than I am; I'm only musical through my ear." In a way, Ashton says, he thinks Balanchine is "the greatest". The qualification is there because he says Balanchine had no visual sense, "and also because he tended to be a bit dry, refusing to have any emotion in things, which came partly from the influence of Stravinsky. Whereas I don't like dancers to be just mechanical

and I can't do anything unless I feel."

His ballets have been criticized, often by devotees of Kenneth MacMillan, as winsome and unlikable. However, although he is never drawn to the dark side of life, as MacMillan is, Ashton's vision is not artificial: it is the world seen through the eye in love (He said his elaborate scheme to do *Macbeth* in 1956 was dropped "because there was no real love in it"). He has always worked in a very tactile way with dancers he likes.

It is Ashton's joyous vision of things that allows him to make even the most trivial subjects poetical. Who else could make a ballet anthropomorphizing vegetables (*Les Légumes*) or Beatrix Potter animals without lapsing into cynicism and sentimentality?

Ashton sometimes hovers teasingly on the edge. "I'm very aware of being over-pretty; I watch myself," he says.

Ashton's ballets are not only an expression of his own personality, they distil a national style inherent in English dancers - which is probably why his ballets never work as well on foreign companies.

Ashton did not define English style as is often claimed, said de Valois. "Style is inborn: it takes a genius like Fred to bring it out." What he cannot do, Ashton says, is instill a sense of period in today's dancers.

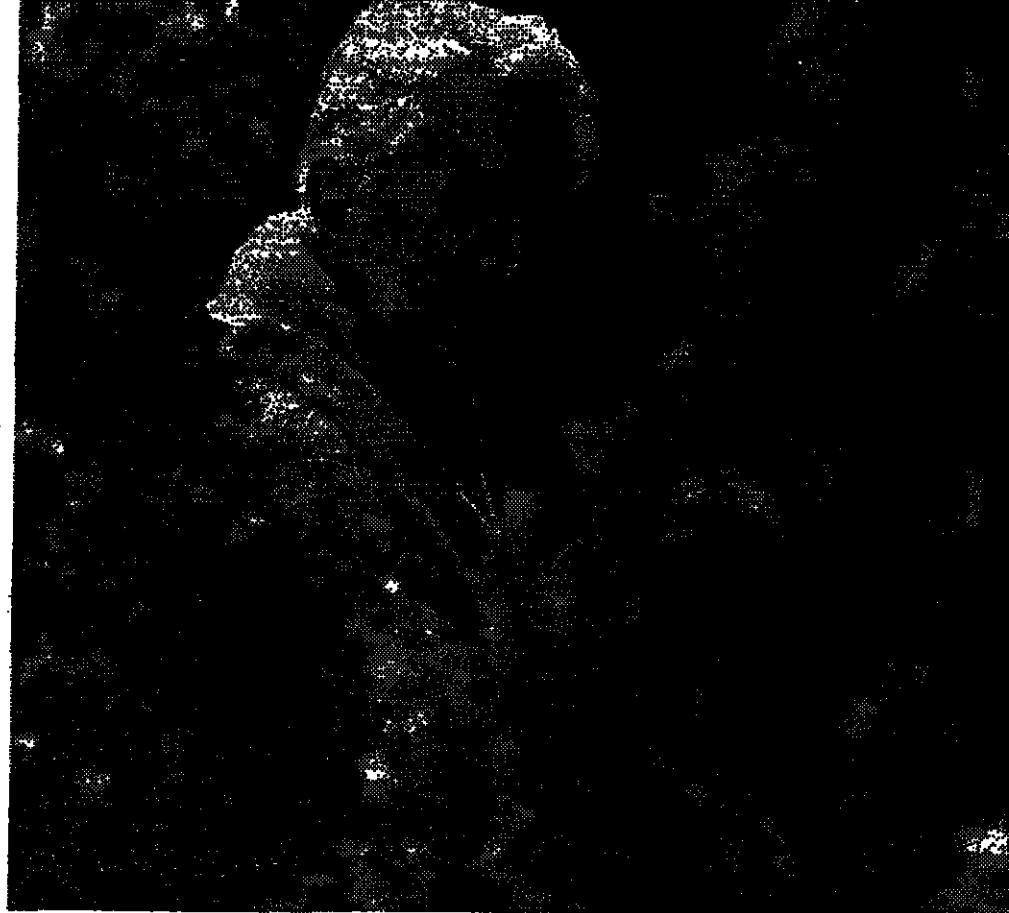
This is one reason why he is reluctant to resurrect his pre-war chamber ballets. He would like to see *The Lord of Burleigh* performed again - "It has a marvellous Mendelssohn score and some very good dances" - and he would like especially to revive *Les Masques*.

It is perhaps not surprising that dancers today do not have the same feel for modish social satires like *Les Biches* or *Wedding Bouquet*; they are unfamiliar with the mores of that world. Dancers are rarely flayed by the aristocracy today, whereas Ashton's generation was.

Ashton recalls Lady Diana Cooper telling him: "The upper classes are the nicest people, stay with us." And he did - though largely because at that time Alice Astor had come into his life.

Alice Astor, the American heiress who became the wife of Prince Obolensky and later Raymond von Hofmannsthal, fell in love with Ashton. He loved her, but did not want to get married as she did. Ashton says that she gave him a standard of excellence beyond which he could never achieve. He hates travelling today as a result.

"Spoilt by Alice. If I went anywhere, a Rolls-Royce would appear at the house with a footman who would put me into a reserved seat on the train." Alice Astor also educated Ashton about food even though now, he says, he never feels hungry and has to force himself to eat. "She used to have wonderful Russian food:



1904 Born Guayaquil, Ecuador  
1917 Sees Pavlova perform in Lima, Peru  
1919 Sent to school in England (Dover College)  
1925 Becomes pupil of Marie Rambert  
1928 Choreographs first work, *A Tragedy of Fashion*  
1929 Works as dancer under Nijinsky in Paris  
1931 Choreographs first major work, *Faust* (for Camargo Society)  
1935 Made principal choreographer of Vic Wells Ballet  
1937 *A Wedding Bouquet*

1946 *Symphonic Variations*  
1950 Created CBE  
1960 *La Fille Mal Gardée*  
1962 Knighted, Legion d'honneur  
1963-1970 Director of the Royal Ballet  
1966 *Edgna Variations*  
1970 Appointed Companion of Honour  
1976 *A Month in the Country*  
1977 Awarded Order of Merit  
1983 *Varli Capricci*, Ashton's last ballet to date

she abandoned Obolensky but kept his chef."

It is these qualities which doubtlessly helped endear Ashton to the Queen Mother, who, as it is well known, counts him among her closest friends.

He regularly lunches at Kensington Palace and is invited to stay at Sandringham and Royal Lodge, which he says is "wonderfully easy - grand but cosy." He says: "I like the fact that the carpets are threadbare in places. The food is very very good and the Martinis are wonderful."

"She knows I love port and always plunks the decanter in front of me and if we're ever at a dinner party together and are given port she always raises her glass to me."

The Queen Mother is only moderately interested in dance, so what, I ask Ashton, do they have in common?

He replies: "Well, we giggle, and she does imitations (she does American ladies very well) and we talk French and I tell her things. She keeps saying, 'You must write your memoirs, and I keep saying, 'No way, Ma'am.'"

Ashton is always being urged to write a book, not surprisingly when you consider the lives that have intersected his. It was not only society that took him up

(and he has always had the patronage of the Queen Mother), but writers and poets as well, even though he would never claim to be highbrow himself. In *Everybody's Autobiography* Gertrude Stein pronounced Ashton a genius and she often had him to stay at Billiglin. "One day Gertrude had a plan for us to go to a certain monastery to hear these Gregorian chants. Billy Chappell and Bobby Helmann were with me and very frivolous and I remember we got the most appalling giggles. Afterwards Alice B. Toklas said to us [falsely drawl]: 'Well, I've learnt a lesson today, I thought only girls giggled.'"

When Yeats was in London in the early 1930s he would invite Ashton to dinners at *Aux Jardins des Gourmets* with Edmund Dulac and his mistress Helen Ashton (no relation). The conversation was always tremendously intellectual and I used to be bored stiff."

After turning down Yeats's offer for him to produce *Four Plays for Dancers*, Ashton was invited to Dublin to work at the Abbey Theatre. "His wife who was very psychic was sent to the docks to meet me - to sense if I was right, I suppose. The waves were obviously positive enough for the Yeats but not for Ashton: when he got back to

London he was sent a contract which he returned. "Because I'm a choreographer not a producer, also, I knew nothing about Irish politics. Now people say to me, 'You mean you knew Yeats,' and can't believe my frivolousness."

Strangely on cue, the village church bells begin to toll plangently. Like John Betjeman, Ashton hears a deep sad undertone in bells, and tries to be in London to escape Sunday melancholia. He says he has a certain fear of death but is more afraid of the indignity. "Keeling over on the Tube or on the train to Diss." Looking at him it is unimaginable. He still has a shock of hair and wears his granny-ish, home-knitted cardigan with sneakers and new blue denim - the first pair he has ever owned. "Do I look absurd?" He says he has become very doddery, but don't believe it: the night before to a record of "Gershwin playing 'Gershwin' he was dancing - hips hoola-hooping, cigarette sky-writing, ankles Charlestoning."

"One danced on the spot like this; you see how much more fun that period was." I see it all: Why he inspires such lyrical effusiveness in people and why he is universally adored.

Julie Kavanagh

## moreover... Miles Kington

GREAT RIVER JOURNEYS OF THE WORLD  
A Major TV Presentation  
Part 27: The Thames

We see the celebrity presenter huddled up in an overcoat, standing at Tilbury Docks.

Celebrity: The Thames, one of the great rivers of the world. Well, not one of the great ones, perhaps, but one of the shortest anyway. And here at Tilbury, when they're not on strike, come cargoes from all over the world: imported TV programmes from America for the BBC and imported blank cassettes from Japan to record those very same programmes. Shots of containers. Shots of lorries. Shots of pickets shuffling up celebrity presenter.

Celebrity: Hastily moving upstream we come to London, the great city where Henry VIII first developed this waterway as a quick route to the Tower of London, to have his wives' heads chopped off. Today British policy is still made on the banks of the Thames at Westminster.

Cut to Houses of Parliament, where a small committee is discussing the future of the media.

Chairman: Don't know if anyone saw that programme the other night, where Germaine Greer was going up some Brazilian river. Going on about the oppressed peasants and everything.

Member: She's a damned handsome woman, Arthur.

Chairman: Maybe, but I'm not sure we can hand out an increased licence fee for socialist stuff like that.

Cut to Hammersmith Bridge, where celebrity is standing in front of notice: Bridge Closed Due To Being About To Fall In River.

Celebrity: Hammersmith, the spot on the Thames nearest to the legendary centre of culture, TV Centre, where programmes like this are planned.

Cut to small committee room at TV Centre.

Chairman: Railway Journeys was a smash hit, and River Journeys is pretty good. Now we have to find a follow-up. The licence depends on it. Member: Well, what about Great Canal Journeys? Or Great Zebra Crossings?

Chairman: Mmm. Be cheap, anyhow... Member: Or what about Great Bridges of the World? Mix to shot of Hammersmith Bridge falling into river. Mix to celebrity walking down Windsor High Street.

Celebrity: Past London we come to the lovely old town of Windsor, where... Celebrity bumps into Alec Clifton-Taylor, and is sent sprawling.

Clifton-Taylor: This is my patch, old boy. Get lost. Cut to Maidenhead, where celebrity is preparing to board a motor launch.

Celebrity: The old town of Maidenhead, a lovely place where many TV executives have made their riverside homes. Cut to TV executive's home, where wife is welcoming him home.

Wife: Did you have a nice day at the TV Licence Fee Appeal Office, dear?

Executive: Ghastly. They want to make a series on Great Hotel Foyers of the World. I felt like resigning on the spot.

Wife: And did you?

Executive: Well, no, actually. They offered me the job of executive producer.

Cut to foyer of Randolph Hotel, Oxford. Enter celebrity.

Celebrity: And here on the banks of the Isis, as it is known here, we find one of the great hotel foyers of the world. Here it was that Osbert Lancaster...

Receptionist: Have you got a reservation, sir?

Celebrity: Well, not as such. The BBC can't really afford...

Receptionist: Out!

Cut to TV Centre, Wood Lane.

Director: And so you see, unless we get your direct support, we can't afford to make more Great Journeys. Please write to your MP and tell him so. Better still, why not offer to put up a BBC TV film crew in your own home...?

Cut to celebrity in Crickleade.

Celebrity: Here in Crickleade, where the Thames shrinks to a trickle...

Announcer: And that's all we have time for tonight. Remember, if you want to see more BBC programmes, please send lots of money to this address. Great Canal Journeys? Or Great Zebra Crossings? London. Thank you.

## CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 456)

ACROSS  
8 Bird expert (13)  
9 Feline (3)  
10 Filled with wonder (9)  
11 Incorrect (5)  
12 Customary (7)  
13 Verbalize (7)  
14 Inappropriate (5)  
22 Men's knickerbockers (4,5)  
24 Soft bread roll (3)  
25 Stinginess (13)

DOWN  
1 USSR capital (6)  
2 Bixa orellana (6)  
3 Throat (8)  
4 Pretender (6)  
5 Fillage (4)  
6 Orphan (6)  
7 Furze worker (6)  
12 King (3)  
14 Contradicted (8)  
15 High mountain (3)

SOLUTION TO No 455

ACROSS: 1 Heed 2 Mores 7 Mark 8 Sizable 9 Folded 13 RSM 16 Bachelor girls 17 Lie 19 Desolate 24 Fighting 25 Snap 26 Admin 27 Notary  
DOWN: 1 Home 2 Cartouche 3 Caste 4 Mezzo 5 Road 6 Solus 10 Dread 11 Riots 12 Legal 13 Ruritania 14 Mess 15 Abel 18 Dind 20 Elide 21 Organ 22 Tail 23 Spay

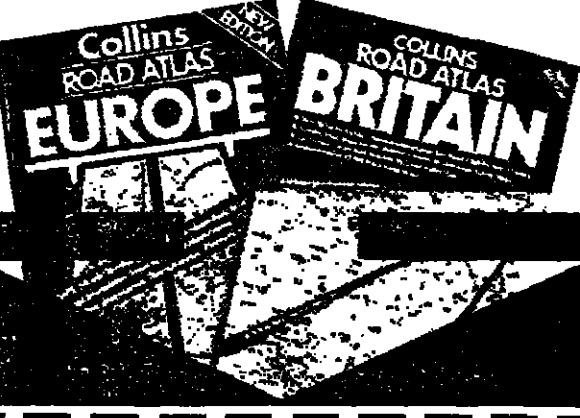
On the Friday Page tomorrow: Brigitte Bardot at 50.

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## The radio that thinks for you



"Thinking" radio receivers, which eliminate the need for tedious tuning and retuning, ought to be commonplace in the 1990s. The BBC's engineering section is already well advanced in developing a basic system to help listeners find the station of their choice easily. This would work through an electronic circuit attached to a liquid crystal display screen, such as one seen in calculators, in a new generation of radio sets.

The screen would display the source of the signal the set is receiving and, in the case of a car radio, could be attached to a voice synthesizer which would tell the driver, on request, the station he had selected.

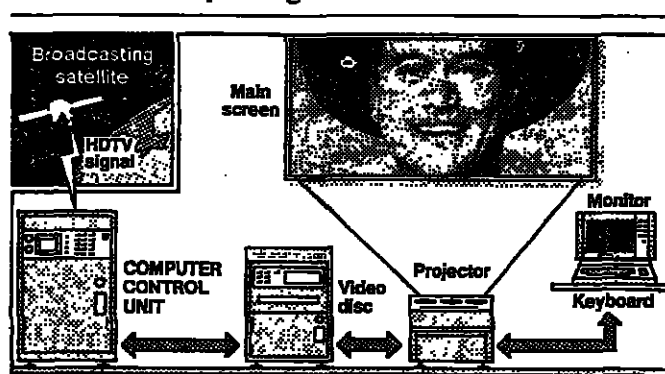
A more advanced version of the system would eliminate the need for tuning altogether. The radio set would simply carry a number of buttons, each dedicated to a particular station. When a channel is selected, the radio will tune into the station automatically.

The key to the whole system is "radio-data", a signal added to the conventional sound broadcast at the transmission stage. The signal is inaudible but it can be interpreted by a microprocessor within the radio itself.

## TV shows on a plate

When the prospect of direct broadcast by satellite to domestic homes was first raised, one of the most common objections was an aesthetic one. Who would be willing to have a three-metre dish aerial, like a

## A series reporting on research: BROADCASTING TECHNOLOGY



### Picture power

Love computers or hate them, the home of the future looks bound to have one of the beasts, if only to control the domestic television set.

Sony, which has led the way in developing a high-definition

television system equalling the cinema in picture quality, finally set the first set on the market in Europe last week. High-definition television (HDTV), video tape recorder, camera, monitor, projector and 10ft wide screen, will leave little change from SLM.

### Everlasting test

The BBC's most viewed broadcast - the test card - is going electronic. The corporation has moved over to an electronic test card store for the test card because of the cost of keeping the test transmission going using conventional equipment.

With old broadcasting technology, the card was contained on high quality slides and shown for transmission through a dedicated slide scanner. Both items require occasional renewal, at considerable cost, and need routine monitoring and adjustment if excellent results are to be obtained.

The test card generator produced by the BBC's engineering department replaces both slide and scanner and needs no routine maintenance. It contains an electronic picture store which can be read for transmission at the same high quality of the previous system.

The patterns at the edge of the card were generated by computer techniques, but the central familiar photograph of a



young girl was copied from a slide, turned into electronic signals, and inserted into the computer-generated electronic pattern. The BBC says it has retained the photograph, not for sentimental reasons, but because "it provides valuable information for assessment of flesh tones, overall saturation, luminance-chrominance timing, and picture monitor convergence."

television. It would seem to be a natural progression to use the unit as the core of a home computer terminal. An extra monitor and keyboard in another room, coupled with the appropriate software, would give the home a computer which makes today's domestic systems look like pocket calculators.

David Hewson

## Hatters & Queen

### WOMEN IN PARLIAMENT

The (not so) merry wives of Westminster

### LORDS ON TELLY

Who's starting now?

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The rat-race at its hottest

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# BOOKS

## A life behind our aloof poet

In cases where a writer has requested that no biography of him should be written, the person who disregards such a request has only one way of defending his action: the biography itself must, by its quality and its approach, justify itself. Peter Ackroyd decided to write his life of T. S. Eliot without the blessing of the author's estate, and without their permission to quote from unpublished works and correspondence, and without permission (and here I must say the estate seems to have gone a bit bloody far) to quote from any of Eliot's published work "except for purposes of fair comment in a critical context". In other words, Ackroyd was on his own.

But it turns out that Eliot's privacy is not completely protected by the powers of the estate. If you are a scholar and have the time and money to go round several university libraries, you will be able to peruse a large amount of correspondence. Things like letters can be in the public domain without being actually published. A vast number of people would like to know what facts are available, but cannot possibly start tramping round Princeton, Yale, New York, Arkansas, and so forth in order to find out. Their essays are due next week, and their grants are already spent. Such students, and other general readers such as myself, have needed somebody to do the tramping around on their behalf. Mr Ackroyd has done the work, and defied the ban - on our behalf. The resultant biography justifies itself.

It is a work which stands comparison with Ian Hamilton's recent study of Robert Lowell. In both cases the poets in question led turbulent and often miserable lives. Lowell put his own life very much in the public eye. Eliot attempted the opposite, and tried to construct a theory of writing which was anti-confessional, impersonal. Yet Eliot, as Mr Ackroyd reminds us, once

## James Fenton on the enigmatic and elusive genius old Uncle Tom

T.S. ELIOT  
By Peter Ackroyd  
Hamish Hamilton, £12.50

said of Edwin Muir's work: "We also understand the poetry better when we know more about the man".

The same holds true in different ways, for Eliot and Lowell. In the case of the latter the biographer can correct an impression given by the poet himself - for instance, the misrepresentation of a love affair. In the case of Eliot, Mr Ackroyd has put much of the supposed mystery of Eliot's life and behaviour into a clear and comprehensible context. The tendency of a good biography, even when it goes into sordid detail, is to protect rather than assault the reputation.

This comes across most clearly in the account of Eliot's disastrous first marriage to Vivien Haigh-Wood, which has been the occasion for much public debate recently. Without a biography and with only anecdote to rely on, you could easily get the impression of Eliot as a cold-blooded monster. But in the course of a complete biography, though you will find evidence at times to support a monster theory, the facts of the matter are unmistakable: that after a while it became inevitable that the marriage would have to end, and that Eliot did his best to find a way of making this clear to Vivien; that she was in no position to face the brutal truth, being seriously disturbed; and that Eliot suffered not just anguish and guilt over the



separation, but was even pushed to the verge of insanity.

If he was a sick man as a result of his marriage, that fact has further bearing on other considerations. For instance the charge of anti-Semitism has at least to be modified if we accept Eliot's own defence that he was sick at the time he wrote his attack on "Free-Thinking Jews" in *After Strange Gods*. Modified but not dropped, altogether. Eliot disowned the offending lectures, but he never disowned his loathsome portrait of Bleisstein, or his "red-eyed scavengers" creeping from Golders Green. Mr Ackroyd reviewed evidence for anti-Semitism in the letters (which we shall not see beginning to be published until next year), but his tone while attempting to sound judicious comes over as exasperated. From the evidence Mr Ackroyd has seen, it appears that anti-Semitism was associated with the pornographic side of Eliot's fantasy, and his morbid sexuality.

Most of this aspect of him was kept from public view. Respectability did not permit such things. It must have been the sick Eliot who in 1923 wrote to the *Daily Mail* in support of Mussolini and demanding the execution of the murderer Edith Thompson. The two subjects might not seem related superficially, but in a sick brain they go well together. Yet it was Vivien in her madness, not T. S. Eliot, who joined the British Union of Fascists. Eliot's political thought was always on the

far right. Perhaps it was religion that saved him from fascism. His craving for authority and order found satisfaction at the high altar - preferably the very high altar.

Religion saved him from much else, from despair, from guilt, from his overwhelming sense of sin. Those who have no religion are badly off in this particular respect - they have nobody to forgive them for what they believe their chief sins to have been. It was in a way most fortunate for Eliot that he moved from the torture chamber of his marriage into the world of - well, into the world of Barbara Pym.

You get a sense, also, from this biography, of the way that Eliot might have got his mind around his conversion, while maintaining his scepticism and his intellectual self-respect. If he had stared into the void and been thoroughly unmoved by what he did not see, the alternative was not simply to turn away from the void and start believing the gospel. The alternative was to enter wholeheartedly into a ritual, to practice religion in the ritual sense. You might not be able, especially at first - to justify any number of intellectual propositions that your religion appears to commit you to. But that is beside the point. Which is that in the practice of ritual, just as in the practice of aerobics, you find peace of mind. It makes a kind of sense, especially if you have been feeling ill for a high proportion of your adult life.

Why did he feel so ill? Partly it was nerves, partly the fact that for long periods he lived in continual fear of being tracked down by his first wife and partly because there does seem to have been an awful lot of flu around during the twentieth century. The remaining reason that this book makes clear is that he worked so hard. Valerie Eliot has said that her husband felt he had paid too high a price to be a poet, that he had suffered too much. And he said to Herbert Read that the best of his poetry had cost him dearly in experience. But the real effort seems to have been the writing that supported his poetry: all the journalism and lectures and broad-

## The spell of modern American psyches

FICTION  
Peter Ackroyd

THE WITCHES OF EASTWICK  
By John Updike  
Andre Deutsch, £8.95

The book is concerned with a coven of witches in New England, but Updike's world is so characteristically tactile and opaque that this could hardly be described as a "novel of the supernatural". Where such a theme would once have been investigated by an American novelist with symbolic force, Updike's tone is a more ambiguous one: it can move from fleshy realism to ethereal lyricism within the space of a few paragraphs.

His narrative is set in the Sixties, so that immediately a psychic distance is established - on the other side of which lurks that decade in which it seems that almost anything could happen. And, in *The Witches of Eastwick*, almost anything does. The eponymous heroines, Jane, Alexandra and Sukie, have spent their time engaged in minor spells and minor affairs until the earthy, quixotic figure of Darryl Van Horne enters their small world of Eastwick in Rhode Island. Although this psychic sorcery derives much of its energy from an electric femineity which its members spread around in an almost elemental fashion, it is not an entirely self-regarding trio. They are very interested in men, and the arrival of Van Horne sets off a trail of polymorphous sexuality that eventually lights a murderous fuse.

investigation of his heroines' magic. Updike suggests that a whole history of American witchcraft lies behind them - and yet, in the end, the modern world casts its own spell: the witches find their sorcery to be out of fashion where it is not counter-productive, and the satanic figure of Van Horne is shown to be something of a sham. It is only when they renounce their magic, and throw away their books, that the three women are able to find a kind of peace.

These women dominate the book, and it is clearly Updike's intention here to expose the layers of female consciousness in a way which few male novelists have attempted. He writes even of child-rearing in a quite familiar and knowing way, "how as they came one by one it was the female infants sucking that tugged at her insides more poignantly, the boys already a bit like men, that aggressive vacuum, the hurt of the sudden suction...". One might almost call it a proprietorial invasion, as if he were in the process asserting that there was no segment of the imaginative life which he cannot claim as his own.

And yet the book is more than the details of its plot since Updike is one of those novelists who depend least upon story to maintain the interest or consistency of their prose. He has always been a very serious, almost a literary, writer: the elegance is characteristically there and, although its very consistency makes it sometimes seem like a cheat, beneath the plangency of his prose there is a genuine attention to the sound and movement of words. This is, in fact, what gives his writing its authenticity - not only in the passages of descriptive writing, where he can summon up the New England landscapes like an hallucination, but also in his evocation of character.

This last gift might almost have been borrowed from the psychic world upon which he elaborates here, for he has the ability to evoke a character which is more than a mere assemblage of words and events. The quality of writing evoked here, and the way in which it intersects with the recognizable human world, is perhaps sufficient testimony to that level of achievement which *The Witches of Eastwick* represents.

Few writers in the last ten years have been as unchallenged cult figures as Angela Carter. From *The Infernal Desire Machines of Dr Hoffman* onwards, she has influenced a whole generation of fellow writers towards dream worlds of baroque splendour, fairy-tale horror, and visions of the alienated wreckage of a future world where nothing comforts the human spirit. There is nothing cosy about Miss Carter. In all her novels, there is a deliberate stylish chill; it is almost as if she is defying her readers to experience the ordinary human emotions. It is a ruthlessness that has always been balanced by the compassion and concern of her excellent journalism. Now, in *Nights at the Circus*, she has invented a new, raucous, ravenous, cockney voice for her heroine, Fevvers; taking us back into a rich, turn-of-the-19th-century world, which reeks of human and animal variety, and has produced her most flamboyant novel to date.

Hatched from an egg or not, winged or not, Fevvers, a giant beauty of a circus performer, dominates the reader as easily as she does Walter, the bewildered journalist who is trying to ferret out the true story of her feckless life. And the clocks strike midnight many times, as we move from Ma Nelson's brothel to the dressing room where bottles of champagne

## Spangles and old sawdust

FICTION

lodge now in her toilet jug. When Walter, sceptical, puzzled, and erotically hooked, plucks up courage to join the circus on its Russian tour, we follow briefly, as Colonel Kearney's troupe makes its way from the peach stucco of St Petersburg to the wilds of primitive Siberia. Everywhere Fevvers needs the witch-like protection of her foster mother, Lizzie; everywhere Walter meets freaks, fantasies, and fears, not to say physical damage and humiliation. Even Fevvers has her bad moments with an artful suitor who would like to capture her for part of his miniature jewel collection. *Nights at the Circus* is a book with many stories; but Angela Carter has not softened her demands upon the reader. It remains the language that holds the power source: rudely colloquial, perhaps, but none the less dense, and detailed with delight, like any Carter novel the "Ludic Game" is the chief pleasure she

## Elaine Feinstein

NIGHTS AT THE CIRCUS  
By Angela Carter  
Chatto & Windus, £8.95

is offering her readers, into whatever wilderness they may be led.

Not so André Brink, whose wilderness remains closely bound to his South African experience, even though this new novel is set very persuasively in Provence. Games are what people try to play, and fail, because they cannot escape simplicity and betrayal, however hard they try to roam and run away from them. Hence the central image of the Black Death; and the Wall was one set up against it, in a doomed attempt to keep free from the dangers that ravaged fourteenth-century Europe. Hence, too, the parallels between the bacillus of racism and that of the Plague.

Brink has drawn a remarkable woman as his central character. Andrea, a young Cape coloured girl, she is researching her lover's film in the unwanted company of a young Black revolutionary,

Mandla. Her lover, as a responsibly liberal white South African, is trying to help Mandla. It seems implausibly trusting of him to throw them together. And though their initial truculence is convincing, the book moves inevitably towards their single act of love. With this comes Andrea's own acceptance that she cannot belong in Europe. As the two of them move about Narbonne and Carcassonne, where the burning of the Jews in the fourteenth century as a mistaken prophylactic against the plague was particularly ruthless, Andrea and Mandla encounter increasingly disturbing evidence that present day Europe is infected with the virus they had thought left behind. Aside from casual racism, South African agents extend a pitiless hand into France itself.

Some conclusions that the book suggested, for all its persuasiveness, disturbed me. At one point, Brink makes some importance in the origin of the medieval Plague in South Africa. At the same time as he has Andrea withdraw from a white world she accepts as hostile, we feel the germ of Apartheid has entered the novel itself. If Andrea must send her white lover away in order to become herself, surely this is the germ of the very South African ideology the writer is concerned to expose and oppose.

It is hardly necessary to catalogue the familiar story of carnage and bitterness which began with the bombardment of Fort Sumter and ended at the Appomattox court-house which provides the framework for Gore Vidal's massive and quite admirable novel. There is action in plenty, but the emphasis is on character: on Lincoln himself, mid-eyed and adamant; on William Henry Seward jowly scheming for effective power until outsmarted by the President to whom he is subsequently entirely loyal; on Salmon Portland Chase tirelessly undermining honest Abe with a view to achieving his own presidency the next year round. Less portentous figures are the engaging John Hay, secretary to the President, liberal, poet, and politician; and Dave Herold, assistant at a drug-store which supplies the White House, his head buzzing with fatuous romantic notions. The

Nigel Andrew  
MONEY  
A Suicide Note  
By Martin Amis  
Corgi, £2.95

A writer called Martin Amis is explaining something of the novelist's art to the protagonist of the new Martin Amis, one John Self. (Got that?). Given a sufficiently "wicked, deluded, pitiful or ridiculous" hero, he muses, "you can do what the hell you like to him, really. This creates an appetite for punishment. The author is not free of sadistic impulses". Well, no one would accuse the writer of *Dead Babies* or *Success* of being free of sadistic impulses, and there are times when *Money* looks like another exercise in high-quality artistic degradation. But nothing in Amis's strange and complex fifth novel, is quite what it seems.

Billed as a "suicide note", it turns out not to be. Presented as John Self's free-wheeling, holds-barred account of his attempts to put together a film - variously titled *Good Money* or *Bad Money* - it finally emerges as an intricate, highly-wrought and fully self (oops!) - conscious fiction. Purporting to present simply the view through Self's red-rimmed and unreliable eyes, the writing continually outgrows any plausible

## Founding father and Self-conscious victim

Stuart Evans

LINCOLN  
By Gore Vidal  
Harcourt, £9.95

novel is scrupulously researched and the moves for the first modern war are interpreted with dispassion, as the moral impediments of pragmatism are laid out on the field of battle to rot alongside the remains of men.

Lincoln's own pain and horror, his sense of participating in a tragedy, are revealed with sympathy, just as his political cunning is remorselessly uncovered. The President wastes physically and intellectually under the stress of his

standing of folly and pretension. In his historical reconstructions, he curbs his high spirits in the interest of narrative efficiency. At the same time his relish for political trickery, public sophistry and self-advertisement in government is given full piquancy. *Lincoln* abounds in portraits of subtle politicians.

General McClellan, the Chevalier Wilcox, and John Wilkes Booth are treated without mercy for their intolerable vanity and stupidity, but the Ancient himself is held in a certain awe. "Humble men," says Hay, never rise so high nor do so much." Mr Vidal leaves the impression of a noble, obsessed man who cared more for an ideal than he did for himself or for people, suggesting that the President ultimately willed his own murder as "a form of atonement for the great and terrible thing that he had done by giving so bloody and absolute a rebirth to his nation."

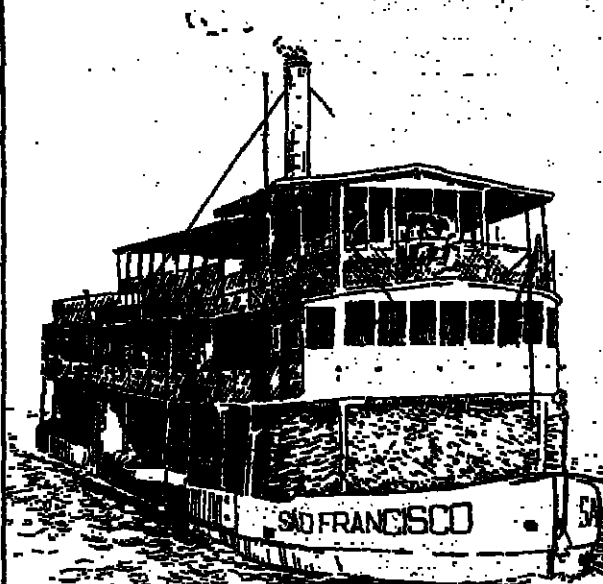
comfortable back-jacket photo of artist and endgame), was a "joker in the pack". And the other joker? None other than "Martin Amis", commissioned by John Self to re-script *Good-Jab Money*.

This extremely clever and audacious novel has some fine comic passages - particularly on the monumental vanity of film stars - and a good serving of the hyperbolic indecencies we have come to expect of Amis. *Money* is set in 1981, and vividly evokes, among other things, the feel of London in that strange, nervy summer. It is an exciting and demanding work, by an author who remains laudably determined to make the novel do something

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## Insider's view of the red enigma

Richard Owen

WILD BERRIES  
By Yevgeny Zhenovierov  
Macmillan, £8.95

This is not exactly an easy novel for English readers - disjointed and diffuse, with a plethora of strange Russian names and Siberian customs. Can this be Yevgeny Zhenovierov, the poet, he of the clear, clean verses on love, corruption and the neutron bomb? The same - and *Wild Berries* (the Russian title is *Berry Places*, but *Wild Berries* has a tangerine taste to it) is shot through with the same preoccupations as Yevgeny Zhenovierov's poetry: a questioning of authority, profound love for the much-sat-upon Russians, irony at the ways of Fate.

We follow the fortunes of the fat and foolish Berry Commission, Tikhon Tikhonovich Tuglik, falsely accused of tumbling a peasant girl in the hay and getting her with child. He ends the novel in hospital as the patient of a girl he really did father, years before, in the terrible days of Stalin's collectivization campaign.

The story of Tikhon is meshed with that of a doomed geology expedition on the Siberian rivers led by Viktor Kolomoitsev, a stern moralist who has had most of the women in his team (sex rears its head in the Taiga). All this is fantastically interwoven with Salvador Allende awaiting betrayal at the hands of General Pinochet, the visions of the nineteenth-century science-fiction writer Konstantin Tsiolkovsky, the ruminations of a Soviet cosmonaut, the product of one of these raw Siberian liaisons, musing on the goings-on below

in Siberia, home of the most delicious wild berries on earth, and incidentally Yevgeny Zhenovierov's birthplace.

No concessions to non-Russians there, but Yevgeny Zhenovierov is talking to his own people (*Wild Berries* was a best seller in Russia, after it eventually passed the censorship) and simply cannot stop himself. The novel teems with life and ideas like a Siberian river with fish. People spend their time arguing about the existence of God, or why they are not allowed to travel abroad, or their lusty sexual experiences. There is love for the simple and self-educated, contempt for careens and followers of fashion.

Dinner elements in the Soviet Literary Establishment appeared in Russian, to passages describing the lunatic and bloody fate of the Zalogin family, falsely accused of being kulaks during collectivization by small-minded and envious Communist officials. But these looking for anti-Soviet ammunition should look elsewhere: Yevgeny Zhenovierov's touch is delicate, allusive, and sympathetic, as in his painful description of a Siberian peasant gazing at the "fairy-tale" goods in a Moscow hard-currency store, only to be told by the rude and haughty sales-girl that such luxuries are not for mere Soviet citizens. Or the mildly malicious portrait of a society painter, a member of the Soviet elite, with his Rolex watch and Dacron suit (recognizably Ilya Glazunov).

An insider's book, perhaps; a passionate invocation of Russia and Siberia; but one which shows Western readers an insider's view of Russia as infuriating, absurd, repressive and loveable: a mixture of achievement and ignorance, laughter and tears, stupidity and warmth. It is a pity the publishers, who commissioned a good translation from Antonine Bouillon, did not also provide a glossary and introduction to make *Wild Berries* more accessible.

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will win the Booker McConnell Prize?

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- Flaubert's Parrot Julian Barnes
- Hotel du Lac Anita Brookner
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- According to Mark Penelope Lively
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WHSMITH



# THE TIMES DIARY

## Indecent haste

The Labour party yesterday announced that Steve Billeliffe, its national fund-raiser, will fight the Newbury by-election in Berks. Nothing remarkable about that, except that Newbury has a sitting MP, 53-year-old Michael McNair-Wilson, who has no intentions of resigning. However, the local Labour party, which had to seek special permission from HQ to elect its candidate, took the step because of "concern" that McNair-Wilson "continuing ill-health" might force him to resign that seat during the next year. This came as news yesterday to McNair-Wilson's, who has been recovering from kidney failure. He has every intention of returning to the Commons after the recess. "I don't intend snuffing it for anyone. I am looking forward, if that's the right word, to a transplant next year."

● No wonder his mighty statue scowls. A stone's throw from the Palace of Westminster, a Russian hammer and sickle flag, priced £9.99, flies on the subliminal of a souvenir shop named Churchill's Gifts.

## Keeping council

City gents do not intend to turn the other cheek as militants and anarchists move in for today's Stop the City demonstration. A group of them called Defenders of the City plan to start off the day by the Stock Exchange distributing leaflets and stickers bearing the slogans "Capitalism Creates Jobs" and "Aggravate an Anarchist: Support the City". Unfortunately I cannot name the organizer. He is a broker who wishes to remain anonymous lest he lose the custom of certain left-wing councils.

## Good publicity?

As the GLC spends its way through £10m on the anti-abortion campaign, I can reveal the Labour-dominated Association of London Authorities is shortly to launch another exorbitant publicity campaign at ratepayers' expense - this time to highlight the effect on local services of ratecapping. A "personal and confidential" memo sent by Islington Council leader Margaret Hodge to leaders of ILEA, the GLC and the ALA's 10 other member councils names Delaney and Delaney as the chosen advertising agency, and gives £500,000 as the approximate cost of the campaign. Mrs Hodge asks each authority to consider "on a confidential basis" how to finance a contribution "likely to be in the region of £40,000 to £50,000". If true, a Department of the Environment spokesman said yesterday, it shows why ratecapping is needed.

## Know thine enemy

Life is hotting up for the libertarian right's Alternative Book Shop in Covent Garden. On Tuesday night police put a guard on the premises after an arson attempt in which paraffin was poured round the shop. Nearby buildings were doused with slogans saying "Capitalism is no alternative" and "The free market imprisons people". Shop assistant Brian McKelvie said: "A couple of days ago I had pulled down window stickers saying 'Smash Scargill' - I thought they were too provocative."

BARRY FANTONI



"You realize this could damage our reputation"

## Crime rating

The first person to appear in court as a result of BBC's *Crimewatch* programme will be, ironically, none other than the programme's producer, Ritchie Cogan. He has been called as an expert witness in a case in which two men, accused of attacking a Gravesend shopkeeper, claim at the moment in question to have been watching a particular item on the programme.

## Watch this space

The Americans plan to put the first Arab astronaut into space next year according to informed sources at the NASA Johnson Space Centre. But, to avoid offending Israel or Reagan's Jewish vote during the presidential campaign, an official announcement is unlikely before November. However, I am told the astronaut, from Saudi Arabia, is already in training at Houston, and will act as the "payload specialist" launching an Arab satellite during the Space Shuttle mission on May 30.

We are all taught to accept, almost without question, that our freedom and welfare depend on centralized power structures, and that we have a duty to obey the orders that are passed down to us from on high. A few individuals make it to the top in every generation, but once they have got there they are expected to defend the status quo which has made it possible for them to advance personally. Meanwhile the source of much authority remains with the old elites and with some new ones. The Crown, the Lords, the Land, the Church and the professions retain considerable political power.

These have now been joined by the new financial, multinational, military and media establishments which have skillfully integrated themselves into the hierarchies of the older order. Parliament itself has lost many of the powers that it won so painfully over the centuries, and the electors have witnessed their own rights shrinking too.

This oppressive political culture has now spread over the whole of our society, affecting the lives of women as well as men, black as well as white, limiting our freedom and narrowing our vision. There is no reason why we should accept these values, which have been consistently questioned by great numbers of people throughout our history.

We are so used to the idea that Britain is an industrialized country and, overall, among the richest in the world, that it is easy to forget our past. For most of our history we were, like so many of the Third World countries today, a peasant society dominated by the feudal hierarchy which owned the land and lived off the people. Thus the roots of our radicalism lie in peasant resistance, and many of the demands for revolutionary change, recorded here, are the same as those that we hear and read about today in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

For example, the theme of liberation from the Norman yoke shows us people opposing the invaders and the oppression they brought. That resistance was based on the denial of the legitimacy of a crown which derived its legal claim to the throne from the Conquest, when William I, having defeated Harold at Hastings, proclaimed his personal authority.

Not only are there echoes of these sentiments in Britain's resistance to Common Market membership, but also in the deep distrust that we now feel as a result of the presence in this country of a foreign army - the American - with its missiles and nuclear weapons, both of which have taken power away from the Parliament that we elect. Such feeling, together with a distrust of the power of the land-owners, bishops and lawyers who sustained that Norman oppression, fuelled radical and revolutionary movements long before trade unionism appeared on the scene to reinforce those emotions with a scientific analysis of the role of class.

At the very beginning it was religious belief that provided the basis of opposition to the oppressors, and there are many references to the revolutionary message of the Bible. This is why the

Another pop singer has gone bankrupt, £30,000 in the hole. He once, it seems, had a record which was first in the charts, but he then fell out of favour; now he is in debt to his bank, credit card companies and the Inland Revenue. His assets come to £51.

There is nothing particularly special about this case, not even the sum of money he owes, which is almost trivial by the usual standards of entertainers' bankruptcies. But there is a moral in it, and the path to that moral is signposted by one word in the *Daily Mail's* report of the case. His brief success was gained with a song called *Out of Time*, or, as the *Mail* put it, "the classic *Out of Time*".

It was Andy Warhol (and look who's talking) who said that in the future "everyone will be famous for 10 minutes". The bankrupt pop singer had his 10 minutes in the 1960s, where all this nonsense started, but for that fleeting moment he, or at any rate the song he sang, was a "classic".

I do not want to be grimly logical, but history's sieve, to the workings of which I have so often drawn attention, operates in art even more inexorably than in politics, and whoever is shaking it starts from the presumption that an awful lot of shaking has to go on before it becomes and the last bit is not going to fall through. When it is clear, the intractable lump can be safely called a classic; but not before.

Of course, we don't have to sit about waiting for history to come back into court and give its verdict, though one of the worst failings of criticism today is its unwillingness to call even the most obvious rubbish, rubbish. But in the meantime, in the meantime, the intractable lump can be safely called a classic; but not before.

For once we can date the arrival of a cliché precisely. In the early 1970s there were a number of heavily publicized cases of travellers from West Africa dying of Psittacosis or Parrot Fever. This is a viral disease of parrots and other birds that can be transmitted to man, in

Tony Benn warns that the centuries-old fight against oppression is far from over

## Why revolt should not be ruled out



authorities would not allow the Bible to be made available in English, so that the people could read it freely, until 1535. The Establishment feared that the same liberation theology - which today brings peasants, industrial workers, trade-unionists and socialists together in Latin America as they struggle for justice - might have united resistance to its authority.

The most basic feeling of all, and the one that could never be suppressed, was the idea of inherent rights, which recurs throughout this book. It derives originally from its belief that God, as the creator of all humanity, had implanted those rights in each man and woman as His gift, and that no person,

however rich or powerful, had any moral or legal right to take them away. This is why radicals and dissenters, and many in the labour movement today, have always put the claims of conscience above the law, and have been quite ready to pay a personal price for doing so. As the years passed, religious belief was supplemented, or replaced, by a more secular view of history. These inherent rights were restated in terms of reason, a humanist view that, in the transition, lost none of its ethical force, although it had been stripped of its theological significance. The concept has come to be expressed in terms of the rights of a freeborn Englishman, or the rights of the Scots, Irish or

Welsh, of women and of blacks, to enjoy equality of treatment under the law.

Modern socialists should never forget that fact, lest we accidentally cut ourselves off from our own history, and come to believe what our enemies say of us, that we are proponents of some foreign creed which has no roots in our own national history.

Indeed this is one reason why the Establishment historians ignore our real history. They fear that if it was made intelligible to the mass of the people we would quickly connect past with present, and draw great strength from that understanding. And so indeed we would, as we came to realize that we are engaged in a campaign for justice and freedom that has gone on, in varying forms for nearly two thousand years. It is not as the Establishment would have people believe, only a few trouble-makers, perhaps owing their allegiance to some foreign revolutionaries, who are pressing for change.

The right to revolt is an ancient one that must always be held in reserve as a protection against the possibility that one day democracy and self-government might be removed, leaving us no alternative but to defend these rights by force. At this very moment in our history the other side should be reminded of this so that they do not miscalculate in what they may plan to do to us. For in the counter-revolution which they are trying to carry through it is already clear that they are prepared to attack our ancient freedoms as well as the attack on the rights of the people of London and of the other metropolitan boroughs who are to lose the power to elect their own councils.

The trade unions are facing, in effect, the reintroduction of the Combination Acts which made it impossible for them to function. Women are under attack, both at work and in the home, where they are expected to take on their shoulders the tasks that the Welfare State was set up to discharge. We are losing the power to govern ourselves, and a foreign president may make war from our own country. The armed forces, the security services and the police, all heavily armed and trained in counter-insurgency operations, are now virtually unaccountable and work behind barriers of almost impenetrable secrecy.

It is not clear yet how far they want to go but we would be well advised to be ready for anything, since if they go too far it may be much harder, if not actually too late, to stop them. There is no law of God of Nature that exempts this nation from the fate that befell Germany in 1930s, and Italy, Spain and Portugal in the 1930s, and Turkey more recently. The only guarantee of our freedom lies with us, here and now, and we had better wake up to that simple truth before it is too late.

Extracted from *Writings on the Wall* by Tony Benn, Labour MP for Chesterfield, to be published on October 1 by Faber and Faber, (£4.95).

## A classic case of over-statement

Bernard Levin reflects on the deleterious effects on art of ascribing immortality to the merely ephemeral

on his brow. Whatever became of Terry Dene, and where now is "Larry Page, the teenage rage"? Where are all those who capered and yodded to so little permanent effect that their very names awake no echo? But it is not only the failure of criticism to which I refer that has brought about this state of affairs; there is a failure on the part of the consumer to remember that there is one sure guide to the nature of art that does not need to wait upon the findings of the sieve.

How do we know whether a picture, a symphony, a novel is a work of art? This is as much as to ask what do all works of art have in common with all other works of art, and at first sight it would appear to be a question with no possible answer, or indeed meaning. But if you think hard enough about your experience of art you will realize that it does have a meaning, and an answer, and moreover a meaning and an answer of the most practical and easily tested kind. How many times have I heard the 38th Symphony of Mozart? I have no idea, though it must be well over 100, well, I am going to hear it again when the Vienna Philharmonic play in London shortly, and the only thing I know for certain about the performance is that I shall hear in the music qualities, depths and meanings that I have never experienced before.

There is the clue: a work of art is inexhaustible. Who stays away from

Hamlet because, having seen it once, he now knows that Claudius killed Hamlet's father. And who but an idiot could see *The Mousetrap* twice? When Tony Palmer claimed that the Beatles were the greatest song-writers since Schubert, he had unaccountably forgotten (among very many others) Schumann, Tchaikovsky, Berlioz, Brahms, Wolf, Strauss, Duparc, Mahler, Mussorgsky, Mendelssohn, Liszt, Borodin, Grieg, Fauré, Ravel and Janáček, and that matter practically all of the creators of German musical comedy from Gerstwin to Sondheim, but his claim would have been ridiculous even if none of these had ever been born, and for a very good reason.

For the reason, I return to Mozart's Prague Symphony. If Mozart were to come to life and take up writing symphonies where he left off I would listen eagerly to each of the new ones as it was performed; but I would also go on listening to the 41 we already have. Would anybody but the *Mousetrap* idiot or his cousin go on listening to last season's output of McCartney after this season's had appeared?

The world has always been full of ephemera. And since it is in the nature of mankind to err, from time to time some example of it has been thought of permanent value, though there have always been a few to point out that the Emperor has no clothes (read Shaw or Parry or for that matter me on Pinter). It is easy,

and comforting, to say that it doesn't matter, that nobody much is harmed by these mayflies whose genius is born at breakfast-time and buried before tea. As the bankrupt pop singer showed the other day ("When you reach a period when you're being wined and dined all the time it's difficult to come down off that pedestal when it ends"), the victims are usually those who initially profit from the swelling of the bubble reputation; drink, drugs and suicide have claimed far more of them than can be accounted for by coincidence, and at the moment not a week passes without another set of revelations about the horror of Elvis Presley's brief life. But I do believe that art can be damaged as well, or at least since art itself is imperishable - the effect of art can be.

If enough people are fed for long enough on a diet of bread and milk - and, moreover, mass-produced sliced bread and sour milk - they will cease to believe that there is more robust fare available, quite apart from the danger that their teeth will fall out, making it impossible for them to eat the meat even if they could be persuaded to try it. I could, of course, declare that since I know the difference between art and rubbish I don't care how many people are unaware of it; but I do not like to think that all the yelling and lies and public relations and salesmanship and fiddling and puffing are making it impossible, or at least very difficult, for millions to reach out for art who might otherwise do so.

Art has the rare property, shared only with love, of providing an infinite supply no matter how much is consumed; but even art cannot work its effect on those who pass it by without glance. That is why, though I do not rejoice at the fall of the pop singer, I do not think it likely that his "classic *Out of Time*" was really a classic at all, for all that it was top of the charts for 10 minutes 18 years ago. Incidentally, when did anybody last listen to it? My guess is that it was about four days after it ceased to be top of the charts.

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## Pollysaturated

New words for old, by Philip Howard

whom it produces inflammation of the lungs, pneumonia and often death. The feather-headed pop papers were full of squawking headlines about the unusual and alarming disease.

At this time the topical catchphrase "as sick as a parrot" came into vogue. It was used particularly by footballers and their managers after a defeat to express extreme chagrin. It is no longer novel, but on

its way to becoming a joke that dies of shame.

The newer diseases that excite the susceptible journals are Legionnaires' Disease and AIDS. But these have not laid any vogue catchphrases yet.

Other creatures besides the parrot that are used as similes for sickness include sick as a cat, a cushion, a dog, a horse, and a rat. "Sick as a cat" has the nuance of extremely annoyed. I am told by philippic vets that a horse cannot vomit. Accordingly Northamptonshire dialect is logical, in that it applies the phrase "sick as a horse" to a person exceedingly sick without vomiting. In general, "sick as a horse" connotes extreme discomfort. An Oz variant is "as sick as a blackfellow's

## CORRECTION

An editorial change was made to George Walden's article on this page yesterday. It should have read: "... and rubbish select the best minds and put them to work."

Ronald Butt

## A word in Bishop Jenkins' ear

The case against the Bishop of Durham is not simply the familiar one of episcopal intervention on one side of a political argument in which Christians can legitimately differ about the best means of securing agreed ends for instance, on how to defend peace or promote employment. More deeply, it is that in a sermon preaching reconciliation and peace, he indulged in one-sided political rhetoric and shallow thinking in a manner that could soften nobody's heart.

Between the lines of his sermon, political prejudice showed aside both charity and the genuine compassion that is based on understanding. The bishop, having begun with a text on the God of hope (Romans 15.13) went straight into a passage of astonishing political petulance. "We could do with some help from this 'God of hope' here in the North-east. Unemployment is at 35 to 50 per cent. They propose to dump radioactive waste on us as if we were the scraggyard of Britain. The miners' strike highlights how divided and distressed society is, to the point of violence. Christians seem absorbed in bad-tempered arguments about belief, or marriage or politics."

The distress of those in his church who have had the rug of their own convictions on marriage and other important parts of their ancient creed, pulled from beneath them by some of their own leaders presumably extends well beyond the North-east. But the bishop chose to throw it into a rag-bag of local political comment and then went on to jeer at the "old men" in the White House and the Kremlin, implying that they somehow made them more likely to use the nuclear bomb. "If you stop and think, hope does not come easily," he observed. Certainly what followed did nothing to assist it.

Having described himself as an "ambiguous, compromised and questioning person entering upon an ambiguous office in an uncertain church in the midst of a threatened and threatening world," the bishop proceeded to demonstrate that he is indeed a master of ambiguity. Hope he said, required compromise and (mark the words for future reference) to insist on one's view was "outrageously self-righteous, deeply inhuman and damnably dangerous". Having then pronounced an anathema on the rejection of compromise in apparently any circumstances (an interesting Christian doctrine) he turned to the miners' strike.

"There must be no victory because the miners must not be defeated." He gave as his reason the "desperation" in their communities when a mine closes. "A society which seeks economic progress for material ends must not indifferently exact such human suffering from some for the sake of the affluence of others."

What an ethically and politically monstrous statement! The society depicted by the bishop as seeking economic progress for (presumably contemptible) material ends is also one desperately requiring that progress to provide for those in need. It is not inconceivable that provision that is desirable precisely because of the attitudes which lead self-interested trade union leaders to

insist on the extraction of coal at a cost that allows no buyers without subsidy paid for by people poorer than the miners.

Though he went on to a brief show of even-handedness by saying that there should be no victory for the miners on their terms alone, his overriding emphasis was on preventing victory for the Government. This approach he called compromise, and he showed a total indifference to the fact that all compromise so far has come from the coal board and none from the NUM.

About the defeat under attack of a government elected to represent all the people, or the defeat of the third of intimidation, he had nothing to say. Nor did he speak on the refusal of the ballot which would probably have produced a majority against the strike months ago. Every cliché of left-wing rhetoric tumbled from the mind of this distinguished theologian. There must also be no victory for "us", that is to say for society at large who have "set up the sort of materialistic and consumer society we have". That is his view of a society which by its inactivity does more for the poor and the weak, and more to share well-being than any in our history.

The Government, he observes bitterly, in words that are a gift to Mr Scargill, seemed "determined to defeat the miners and thus treat the workers as not part of us" - a masterpiece of bogus logic which equates the miners with the workers as a whole. Indifferent to poverty, the Government had "consistently" produced measures improving the lot of the better-off and worsening that of the badly-off. "Such a government cannot promote community or give hope" - and as I read the text I seemed to hear the roars of "Resign! Resign!" from the Opposition benches.

This sermon was one that could only harden feelings. Yet even when he had thought it over he obviously found no reason to think that it might be "outrageous" and "self-righteous" to stick to his view. At a comfortable log-fire press conference he denounced compromise. "Such a budgets since Sir Geoffrey Howe's first, and spoke slightly of the 'gladiatorial contest between Mr MacGregor as the Prime Minister's hero and Mr Scargill as the hero of an imagined revolution' as though nothing deeper was at stake.

There was no sign that he understood that what had been missing from his sermon was the true compassion based on understanding, which should embrace even those people trying to govern in the interests of some, rather than the leaders of the NUM. To the bishop, all that is wrong seems to begin with Mrs Thatcher. He has forgotten, or does not care, about the winter of discontent, the rotting value of people's wages and savings, the distrust and fear that had afflicted families throughout Britain. Sentimentality is easy and the miners may arouse it. Genuine compassion requiring an understanding of what is at stake for the nation as a whole is another matter. It is not conspicuous among the qualifications the new bishop has brought to his job.

Paul Jennings

## 100 lines for being bad

No doubt even as I write this there is one of those British ad hoc committees sitting round a shiny old table in some room with, I hope, a view from its great windows over St James's Park, trying to agree on a name to submit to the Queen for the Laureateship. From time to time one of them gets up and stares out at the weeping willows, the water, the ducks, the mellow turrets and cupolas, statues and leaves and paths as the flower of cities all adds another to the thousands of seasons it has passed through.

No doubt I've read somewhere who decides, but if so I've forgotten. I see this committee, in this little-dried Dryden Room, an admiral, couple of dons, Keeper of the Queen's Sack, the statutory Woman (Lady Wilson, Dame Mary Wark, Margaret Laski), a bloke from the Treasury (try and keep them out) and of course Sir Hugh Casson and Lord Goodman, and I suppose Arts Council and Poetry Society people.

Scraps from the endless discussion float out to the figure at the window. "Enright Peter Redgrove, Peter Levi, Peter Porter... Adrian Henri, dash it, people will think the feller's a half-dresser... Logue, time we had a left-wing one. Heaney then... what about that chap Michael Davie... you mean Donald Davie, Admiral... Hilda Egworthy, Jack Tippet... yes, but could Larkin celebrate anything?... the basic trouble is, Commissioner, nobody can remember bad lines by any of them..."

He's got something there, thinks the figure at the window. Mozart is the only exception to the rule that anybody aiming at the sublime must sometimes only get the ridiculous. And that was music. When it comes to poetry, Homer must nod. Old Johnny B. would have been first to admit some of his lines fell flat. Those "millions of leaves" - very body had a shot at parodying him. Who was the last poet well-known enough, individual enough (and capable of mirth-raising lines)? Eliot, what was that lovely stuff by Henry Reed? Ah yes.

As we get older we do not get any younger. Seasons return, and today I am fifty-five. And this time last year I was fifty-four.

And this time next year I shall be sixty-two.

Shelley wrote whole utterly unsayable plays. The *Cenci*. Open it anywhere and you find stuff like: "Lucretia, Hark! 'tis the castle horn; my God! It sounds like the last trumpet. Beatrice. Some tedious guest is coming."

Come to that, who has more unsayable lines than the greatest poet of them all? In *Titus Andronicus* not long after the stage direction *Enter Demetrius and Chiron, with Lavinia, ravished; her hands cut off, and her tongue cut out*, the boy Lucius, nephew to Lavinia and grandson of Titus, who by this time has had one of his own hands off, says

Good grandsire, leave these bitter deep laments;

Make my aunt merry with some jest.

It had just better be good. And who would care to be the Second Guard in *Antony and Cleopatra* who, when Dolabella enters, well able to see for himself the corpses of Cleopatra, Iras and Charmian, with the words (themselves rather dangerous) "How goes it here?" has to reply simply "All dead? All dead? All dead?" You name the poet, if he is a real one even some of his perfectly good lines will in some mysterious way succumb to irrelevance, misinterpretation etc. I can't recall who it was that, on hearing the lines in Campbell's *Hohenlinden*,

Where furious Frank and Jerry

Shout in their sulphurous canopy

Always had this literal picture of Frank, an angry bloke with red hair, wrestling with a similar Hun in a tent which had fallen down on them in a lot of yellow smoke. But I could tell you who has always wondered, when Shelley says in *Ode to the West Wind* "If Winter comes, can Spring be far behind?" if it shouldn't really be "can Spring be far in front?"

Yes, that's it, the man at the window, shouts to the surprised committee round their table; someone with bad as well as good lines, parodyable because recognizable. Of course, it has got to be.

Well, neither you nor I were in that room so we shan't know till they tell us.





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## BEST OF A BAD JOB

Before passing judgment on the Sino-British agreement on Hong Kong, the full text of which was published in yesterday's White Paper, it is important to consider what British negotiators could and could not achieve. When the Prime Minister went to Peking two years ago, there were hopes that the status quo in Hong Kong could be preserved unchanged after 1997, the year the lease on most of the colony expires. There was talk of Britain extending the lease, or of acknowledging Chinese sovereignty while continuing to administer the territory, as the Portuguese have done in nearby Macau.

But it soon became abundantly clear that the Chinese leader, Mr Deng Xiaoping, had no intention of letting the British stay on after 1997. Instead, he stuck to the position he took at the time of Mrs Thatcher's visit and has taken ever since, namely that in 1997 Hong Kong would become a Special Administrative Region of China with a high degree of local autonomy.

It took the British government some time to come round to the view that if China chose to assert control over Hong Kong there was little Britain could do about it. But given both the lease agreement and Hong Kong's special relationship with China, there was in the end no other view to take. During the past year or so, then, British negotiators accepted that the most realistic agreement would be one ceding China's claim to Hong Kong, but giving enough details about China's plans for Hong Kong after 1997 to provide at least a modicum of assurance to the people of Hong Kong, and to hold Peking to its word.

Their task was not an enviable one. China was in the dominant position, and their only hope was to show that a detailed agreement was in China's interest at least as much as Britain's. There were, it is true, certain "cards" to play - or rather, to leave lying face up for the Chinese to see. These included the "Taiwan card" showing how a sensible settlement of the Hong Kong problem could help Peking deal with the Nationalists in Taipei, and the "modernisation card", showing how, with proper handling, Hong Kong could help China attract much-needed foreign trade and investment. But the British side could never be sure that if provoked Mr Deng might not sweep all the cards aside, and

putting national pride before economic prudence take over. Under these circumstances British negotiators had to look determined, but without quite allowing their determination to be put to the test. Only in this way could they secure concessions without allowing the negotiations to break down, and the future of Hong Kong to be thrown into jeopardy.

Bearing these considerations in mind, the agreement unveiled yesterday has much to be said for it. As expected it combines a British acknowledgment of China's claim to sovereignty over Hong Kong after 1997 with a Chinese commitment to retain the present social, economic and legal system in Hong Kong largely unchanged for fifty years after that date. It also includes in the form of a 14-point annex to the main joint declaration a series of detailed provisions for Hong Kong after 1997. In many ways these provisions are a triumph for British diplomacy.

They are unusually clear and comprehensive - far more so than appeared likely a few months ago - and provide assurances that Hong Kong's way of life will remain unchanged right across the board, from law and financial affairs to civil liberties. Certain parts of the annex are particularly welcome, for example the provisions allowing expatriates to go on serving in government at a high level after 1997; the fair and sensible regulations for land leases up to and beyond 1997; the assurances about freedom of religion and education; and the right given to Hong Kong to handle its own external economic affairs, for example by participating in GATT.

Others are less welcome, for example the provision for stationing Chinese troops in Hong Kong after 1997 "for the purpose of defence" - understandable, no doubt, but not welcome. Then there is the part of the agreement that deals with nationality. This is contained in the joint declaration or the annexes attached to it, but in memoranda to be exchanged between the two sides. These make clear that Hong Kong's two and a half million holders of British Dependent Territory passports will not be eligible for dual nationality, and that after 1997 they will not be able to pass on such rights as they enjoy from

these passports to their children. On this issue Britain has given away too much; and if the terms of the memorandum cannot be altered, the British government should at least compensate them by giving as broad a definition as possible to those B.D.T. passport holders eligible to settle in Britain under the discretionary terms of the 1981 Nationality Act.

There are other shortcomings, as well. One is the provision for a joint liaison group, which is to monitor the agreement, and will be based in Hong Kong from 1988 until year 2000. Liaison is necessary, but not in Hong Kong, for despite official disclaimers the liaison group will come to be seen as wielding a political authority of its own. As such it will certainly start interfering in Hong Kong's internal affairs.

Nor does the actual form of the agreement - a joint declaration with annexes and memoranda - correspond very convincingly with the description given by the Foreign Secretary at his press conference in Hong Kong eight weeks ago, when he spoke of an agreement that would be "legally binding". It is binding only in the sense that at the moment both sides have a strong interest in upholding it. It cannot ensure that China will be willing or able to tolerate a capitalist enclave in Hong Kong in twenty or thirty years time, when the eighty year old Mr Deng has passed from the scene.

But just as it would be wrong to celebrate the agreement as a victory, so too it would be wrong to criticize it too severely. It has managed to secure some unusually specific assurances from Peking, and as such holds out the prospect of order, stability and business confidence in Hong Kong, at least for the next few years. It does not, and cannot, address the distressing fact that most people in Hong Kong remain deeply suspicious of the Chinese Communist Party, and extremely reluctant to come under its sway. Nor can it prevent the slow erosion of Hong Kong's identity by creeping interference from China, which is now the greatest danger to the territory's future. But given the limits on what could be achieved, it comes close to being as good as Britain, and Hong Kong, can expect to get. And as such it should be judged a success.

## BROKEN TRUST

South Africa has injured itself by refusing to honour solemn undertakings given to a British court that four South Africans released on bail will return to face arms smuggling charges. There is no justification in the attempt to link this with the case of the six political dissidents who have sought refuge in the British Consulate at Durban.

The Durban six have not been charged with any crime. They were held under the Internal Security Act but released when a South African court ruled that their detention order was invalid and fled to the consulate. Another detention order has now been obtained by the authorities and its validity is being challenged in the courts. In the meantime the British Consulate remains their somewhat reluctant host. The British view is that there is no justification for forcibly removing them, though they obviously cannot stay permanently. South Africa is respecting the consulate's inviolability under the Vienna convention. The hearing of their appeal against the new detention order - by the Pietermaritzburg Supreme Court, probably next week - may make a marginal change in the strict legal position but is unlikely to alter the British attitude. The six will remain unchanged: in partisan terms

they might be described as fugitives from injustice rather than fugitives from justice. They have not asked for asylum, only temporary refuge.

The four South Africans due to appear before Coventry magistrates face criminal charges - of evading United Nations prohibition on the export of strategic goods to South Africa. They were allowed to leave the country only after specific assurances had been given to a judge by Mr Andre Pelsler, first secretary at the South African Embassy. There is thus a clear case of promises broken and international undertakings not fulfilled. The happenings in Durban cannot be an excuse.

What the world should do about it is more difficult. Mr Denis Healey is surely over-reacting in calling on Britain to persuade the EEC to impose sanctions. The left frequently calls for sanctions, but they would almost certainly be ineffective against South Africa and would cause great damage to British interests. On the other hand it is important that displeasure be conveyed. The perfidious Mr Pelsler has already gone some way, but it would be a good idea if it were made known that he would not be welcomed back. There are other contacts

and cooperations that could be ceased. When Mr P. W. Botha is next passing he should not be invited to lunch at Chequers.

South Africa's self-damaging behaviour indicates that Pretoria has reason to feel seriously embarrassed by the Coventry case. Closer attention might need now to be paid to the activities of South Africans in Britain - in operating on the edge of legality in buying arms, oil and technology and, more seriously in using illegal means, such as bribing and burglary, in keeping a check on the operations of anti-apartheid exiles.

In a wider field, a broken international promise inevitably means a loss of credibility; a bankrupt must surrender his credit cards. This is specifically serious over Namibia: the American-led Western position has long been that if certain specifics were met the South Africans could be relied on to fulfil their pledge to allow Namibia independence. But can that now be the case? More generally, an influential view in Washington and London has long been that more contacts are likely to mean easier adjustment during this difficult time for South Africa. That must be right, so it is sad that the present loss of trust inevitably means more isolation.

## Winning wines

From Mr Karl Heinz Johner  
Sir, I endorse the sentiments expressed by Gay Biddlecombe, of St George's English Wines (September 19).

As one of the leading wine producers in this country, we were equally amazed to find that English wine had been excluded from the classifications of the Wine Development Board. I cannot imagine any other country treating its own wine makers in such a way.

After nine years of making wine at Lamberhurst I feel I understand English wine. But I don't think I shall ever understand the English.

Yours faithfully,  
KARL HEINZ JOHNER,  
Winemaker,  
Lamberhurst Vineyards,  
2 Ridge Farm Cottages,  
Lamberhurst,  
Kent.  
September 21.

## Naseby's new battle

From Mr Max Hastings  
Sir, Monday's leading article (September 17) offering the mild blessing of *The Times* upon the proposed A1-M1 link road across Naseby battlefield was phrased in the finest tradition of "a faraway country of which we know nothing". Our own village will not be directly affected by the road, but it lies close enough to appreciate the value of what it is at stake.

Given the instinctive philistinism of Whitehall, most conservation struggles are decided by the size and vociferousness of the middle-class lobby in the area affected. Rural Northamptonshire cannot field as many battalions of this kind as, for instance, the Winchester by-pass catchment area.

There is thus a real danger that the A1-M1 proposal will be steamrollered through by the baulage lobby and the very sensible objections of local landowners dismissed as special pleading. The Govern-

ment has been making it plain for some years that it proposes to make Corby a showcase of industrial reconstruction at almost any cost in subsidy from the taxpayer. Whitehall's enthusiasm for placating the former steelworkers is a formidable secondary - and unifying - influence on its enthusiasm for this road.

Experts have proposed several alternative schemes which involve upgrading existing roads rather than cutting a swathe across a singularly unspoiled tract of east midland countryside, even ignoring the historical significance of Naseby.

In the 1980s we really should have learnt enough from the miserable errors of the 1960s to perceive the futility of creating space-age local communications at the cost of making the locality itself unfit for human habitation.

Yours faithfully,  
MAX HASTINGS,  
Quilshorn Lodge,  
Northamptonshire.  
September 17.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Economic revolution facing the nation

From Mr J. F. Q. Switzer

Sir, In your leading article, "Beyond the mountain range" (September 24), you rightly urge a radical change in the whole attitude to coal extraction and the future of the coal industry. But Mr Enoch Powell's article to which you refer (September 22) goes far beyond the question of the future of the coal industry.

What he is saying is that the miners' strike is part and parcel of a general predicament of a society caught up in a rapid and continuing economic revolution, and that "during the next ten or twenty years the whole nation, and not only the mining industry, has to surmount a high and daunting threshold".

The Archbishop of Liverpool put it with equal force when he said that "the whole nation needs to take a very clear look about it as we move towards the eleventh hour of the industrial era".

The word revolution is not an exaggerated description of the changes to which our economy and therefore our society is being subjected. Professor Stanier, Chairman of the School of Science and Society at Bradford University, has recently said that within two or three decades it will take no more than 10 per cent of the labour force to produce all the material goods used by society. The labour input in office work of all kinds will also be substantially reduced.

The consequences for patterns of employment and working hours, for education and training, and for the impact of increasing recreation on countryside and coastline are enormous.

At the root of the problem lies the question of how we transfer wealth from those who generate it, who are in highly paid jobs using the new technology, to those who are freed from manufacturing and service industries and can therefore work in jobs that can only be done by human beings and which do not "make money" - such as health and social care or clearing up and improving the landscape, jobs which at present we cannot "afford" to pay people to do.

That seems to me to involve a vast expansion of jobs in the public sector or in publicly supported bodies, and therefore to require an increase in taxation.

Am I right or wrong? At least I

should like to see the question discussed. Precious little has come from the politicians, and in the absence of informed discussion I fear either a Luddite response from those fearing unemployment, or the usual "don't you worry, these things always sort themselves out" attitude, which will ensure the maximum social tension combined with the failure to secure the great benefits that the advances of technology can bring.

Yours faithfully,  
J. F. Q. SWITZER,  
Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge.  
September 25.

From Mr Edward Goodman

Sir, As Mr Enoch Powell and your thoughtful leader (September 24) point out, the miners' strike is now bringing into focus the nature of the general problem facing our industrial society at this time of rapid technological change and high unemployment: the need "to recognize and to cope with an era of economic revolution".

The search for a reconciliation between the necessity for efficient production and the human values of the community must be pursued with determination, but will take a long time and will, it is to be hoped, involve bold experiments.

Could the present impasse between coal board and union be the starting point for one such experiment? The idea of the two-tier economy might be tried out. Let the first tier be the productive coal mines, with all their high technology. The second tier would then be the less productive pits, needed to be kept going to sustain the life of the mining community, and provide continuing employment for those whose skill is dependent on them.

They could be hived off from the National Coal Board, apart from certain central services. Among the more difficult questions are: could the profits from the first tier be used to support the second and would the miners who chose to stay in the second tier be prepared to work for a smaller return in order to retain their traditional way of life?

Yours faithfully,  
EDWARD GOODMAN, Chairman,  
The Actors Society Trust,  
9 Poland Street, W1.  
September 25.

### Bishop's views on the miners' dispute

From Mr Norman St John-Stevas

From Mr Norman St John-Stevas MP for Chelmsford (Conservative)  
Sir, It would be sad if the somewhat hysterical brouhaha surrounding the Bishop of Durham's entrenchment sermon were to obscure the important principles which his utterance raises.

First, the Church - by which I mean in this context the bishops and clergy - contrary to some of the dilatory comments of my political colleagues, has not only a right but a duty to speak out on political issues which have moral and social implications. The Christian religion cannot be confined to the liturgy or the private meditations of the pious. Christianity will not be imprisoned in the vestry; the Christian religion is social or it is nothing. It is about the relationship between human beings in the light of the teaching of the One who set the supreme example and became in very truth the man for others.

Second, the guidance given must be clear and unequivocal, but on matters of general principle not on particular political applications, let alone party political ones. If this is not done clerical statements, far from clarifying the moral issues, establishing the common ground, and modifying aspirations, will simply be seized on as additional weapons by the protagonists in the struggle.

The bishop's sermon, which I have read carefully and in full, for the most part makes a valuable contribution to the spirit of reconciliation and unselfish service, which our country needs at the moment more than anything else. Its tone is humble and undogmatic, in fact thoroughly unepiscopal. Alas, when it gets down to the application of the principles to the miners' strike it becomes at once contentious and partisan. The Lord Chancellor has dealt trenchantly in your columns with the unseemly remarks about Mr Ian MacGregor, who himself has taken them good-naturedly enough. Yet there is a far more misleading and dangerous passage in the sermon when the bishop declares *ex cathedra* that "the miners must be defeated and this must be the first priority".

But there is no struggle between the miners and the Government or even with the coal board. How could there be when they have never been given their democratic right to express their opinion? A large minority have even so insisted on working, an even larger minority have been intimidated by public and private violence from so doing. Furthermore, has the bishop paused to reflect that if the miners "must not be defeated", then the lawful Government, the rule of law and Parliament must?

The Bishop of Durham has secured a remarkable double within a space of a few weeks by first giving the impression (quite wrongly) that he does not believe in the Resurrection, whereas his doubts concern the empty tomb, and then (equally wrongly) that he is an uncritical supporter of Mr Scargill and his bully boys. All this has come about through a combination of naivete and a clumsy and imprecise use of language. May I respectfully suggest to his Lordship, that when he comes to the third horse of his trioka - his maiden speech in the House of Lords - he puts these defects right. Then he will have a real chance that his sincere and spiritual message will actually come across.

I am Sir, your obedient servant,  
NORMAN ST JOHN-STEVAS,  
House of Commons,  
September 26.

From Mr Brendan Clifford

Sir, With clergymen (more than any other profession, I suspect) it is vital to understand "where they are coming from". The future of the Conservative Party and the smugness of Mr Scargill are two manifestations of the same thing, both of which fail to recognize Bishop Jenkins' starting-point. In true prophetic style, he castigated both parties for their intransigence.

To concentrate on anything else (as Mr Walker has done in his rejection of the Government as enemy; as Mr Scargill has done in using the bishop to support the ends of his own union; or as Lord Hailsham has done in his trivial remarks on racism) is to miss the point.

The gospel message demands reconciliation between all individuals to secure a means of escape, but the majority of them return to Hong Kong once their security has been confirmed. Hong Kong is their home and where they feel the most at ease to practice their renowned abilities so long as their freedoms, both civil and commercial, remain tenable.

The Chinese "system" and the example of Shanghai have become outdated since China normalized its political and commercial relations with the world. Both these arguments would have been justified if past regimes had maintained their control.

However, the current pragmatism of the leadership in Beijing suggests a fundamental reassessment of the "system", which includes commercial encouragement.

Hong Kong's future is indeed dependent on the wishes of China. However, its role as a conduit for China's modernization is of such importance to Beijing that if the current philosophy can be maintained, then Hong Kong's long-term future has much more than "a chance".

May I suggest that Dr Elvin's "knowledgeable observers" should research from a practical point of view, thus allowing them to express their so-called informed opinions in public, rather than "in private".

Yours faithfully,  
JEREMY SOAMES,  
47b Stubbs Road,  
Hong Kong.  
September 25.

From the Reverend J. L. Marshall

Sir, I am astonished by the letter from Lord Hailsham (September 25). That the most senior member of the judiciary should consider that the Bishop of Durham's *obiter dictum* is capable of such a construction makes me tremble for the future of justice.

Yours faithfully,  
J. L. MARSHALL,  
The Rectory,  
All Hallows Street,  
Ordsall,  
Nottinghamshire.  
September 25.

From Mr Michael Foot, MP for Blaenau Gwent (Labour)

Sir, Not odd, said God, I'd have you know.

It may seem easy down below to keep the Bishops all in tow. Just propping up the Thatcher show up here, you see, there's hell to pay. She wants to tell ME what to say.

Yours faithfully,  
MICHAEL FOOT,  
House of Commons,  
September 26.

### Concern over gallery's future

From Mr Frank Auerbach

Sir, The GLC wants to evict the Arts Council from the Hayward Gallery. I am dismayed.

My work has had a retrospective exhibition at the Hayward. This happens only once: I have an interest only as a visitor.

I know the Arts Council staff to be distinguished, dedicated and very hard-working. The team may be irreplaceable. It has put on some marvellous shows.

Perhaps most people do not care for art. They get their communications, their images of human impulse and endeavour entirely from other sources. But very many people are engaged and moved, and they have made an effort to visit the Hayward Gallery.

I for one, have been affected by the Picasso and Matisse exhibitions, by the Rodin exhibition which Henry Moore arranged, and by many others.

The Arts Council programme has been pretty varied. Perhaps the GLC has plans for different exhibitions? Is the Hayward Gallery essential to these plans? Does the GLC know what it proposes to destroy?

Yours sincerely,  
FRANK AUERBACH,  
c/o Marlborough Fine Art (London) Ltd.,  
6 Albemarle Street, W1.  
September 25.

From the Chairman of the Association of Art Historians

Sir, The Greater London Council (and its predecessor, the LCC), has an honourable record in promoting the arts and art exhibitions. One need only recall the series of

distinguished exhibitions devoted to British art at Kenwood over the past decade as an example.

It is all the more regrettable that the GLC, through its Arts and Recreation Committee, has served notice on the Arts Council of Great Britain to vacate the Hayward Gallery within six months, so as to promote the "first municipal art gallery in London". Not only is this assertion of dubious historical accuracy, but much more serious is the disruption to the Arts Council's exhibition programme, were such a threat to be carried out.

To organize a major art exhibition takes from two to five years; the recent highly successful *English Romanticism 1800-1850* was ten years in gestation and took another four years to achieve. The GLC is in no position at present to substitute a forward exhibition programme comparable to that of the Arts Council's, neither has it the resources of specialist staff, nor a recent track-record in this field which will win the confidence of lenders from British and foreign institutions, public and private, essential to the success of such undertakings.

Threatened with extinction, the GLC seeks to impoverish the artistic riches of the capital for short-term political ends. Londoners and our many visitors from abroad will not thank them for that.

Yours faithfully,  
DENNIS FARR, Chairman,  
Association of Art Historians,  
Courtauld Institute Galleries,  
41 Gordon Square,  
London WC1.  
September 26.

### Relics of a Saxon king

From Dr S. D. Keynes

Sir, Dr Gem (September 24) remarks that the results of a scientific examination of the bones alleged to be those of King Edward the Martyr were never made public. Perhaps the examination in question was that reported in *The Criminologist*, vol 5 (1970). The bones are presumed to be of Saxon origin, and are said to be those of a male in his late teens, various fractures are described and are explained with extraordinary ingenuity in terms of injuries that the king might have sustained if we are to follow the account of his murder in the late-century *Life of St Oswald*.

Much as I would like to believe it, I find it difficult to do so. Archbishop Wulfstan of York said in 1014 that Edward's body had been burned.

The author of the eleventh-century *Life of St Edward*, on the other hand, describes how the body lay hidden in a bog for nearly a year after the murder (March 18, 978); how it was then miraculously revealed, and taken first to Ware-

ham (February 13, 979) and thence to Shaftesbury (February 18, 979); and how it was moved from a grave north of the principal altar to a more worthy place in the sanctuary, in 1001.

The body may have remained there, despite the fact that a large number of religious houses claimed in the Middle Ages to have portions of St Edward's bones.

The question is not so much whether the bones, now reposing in a bank vault in Croydon, are indeed Edward's (since that could never be proved), but whether they are the bones buried in the sanctuary at Shaftesbury, in 1001, in the belief that they were his. The press reports of the excavations in 1931 may make this clear.

Whatever the case, one hopes that the bones will be returned to Shaftesbury, and not end up in a Russian Orthodox church in exile cemetery in Brookwood, Surrey. No Saxon can have deserved that fate.

Yours faithfully,  
SIMON KEYNES,  
Trinity College,  
Cambridge.  
September 24.

### Hongkong's future

From Mr Jeremy Soames

Sir, Dr Elvin (September 21) could not have chosen two less informed reasons for not giving Hong Kong's "long-term future much of a chance".

It is an understandable precaution for many young Hong Kong professionals to secure a means of escape, but the majority of them return to Hong Kong once their security has been confirmed. Hong Kong is their home and where they feel the most at ease to practice their renowned abilities so long as their freedoms, both civil and commercial, remain tenable.

The Chinese "system" and the example of Shanghai have become outdated since China normalized its political and commercial relations with the world. Both these arguments would have been justified if past regimes had maintained their control.

However, the current pragmatism of the leadership in Beijing suggests a fundamental reassessment of the "system", which includes commercial encouragement.

Hong Kong's future is indeed dependent on the wishes of China. However, its role as a conduit for China's modernization is of such importance to Beijing that if the current philosophy can be maintained, then Hong Kong's long-term future has much more than "a chance".

May I suggest that Dr Elvin's "knowledgeable observers" should research from a practical point of view, thus allowing them to express their so-called informed opinions in public, rather than "in private".

Yours faithfully,  
JEREMY SOAMES,  
47b Stubbs Road,  
Hong Kong.  
September 25.

### Decline of handwriting

From Mr Charles F. Wilson

Sir, Once again, the handwriting on the birth certificate of a royal prince (photograph, September 22) brings sadness to both loyal subjects and lovers of calligraphy.

Presumably, Mrs Vince and other registrars are not instructed in this art before taking up their posts: in the latest certificate, I am reading "Slemy" for "Henry", while the qualification of the informant is quite illegible. The first letter of "Sheila" appears as a figure 8.

Might not this important task be entrusted in future to the experienced scribes of the College of Arms? Not only would we then see a document of exquisite beauty but one might hope that arrangements could be made for charities to benefit from the sale of copies to the public.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,  
CHARLES F. WILSON,  
Augusta,  
Royal Chase,  
Tunbridge Wells,  
Kent.  
September 22.

### Research continues

From Professor E. R. Moxon

Sir, The obituary of Professor Julius Comroe, which appeared in *The Times* on August 31 stimulates me to add my own comments to those championed by Professor Batchelor (August 16) concerning the present crisis in the funding of biomedical research in the United Kingdom.

Upon retiring from a scintillating career as a medical scientist, Professor Comroe devoted himself to scientific history - studying the way in which medical developments led to breakthroughs in treatment, diagnosis and stressing the importance of fundamental science to major advances in the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of disease.

In fact, almost half of all advances essential to later clinical developments were judged to be the result of basic research.

This conclusion is not, I submit, a self-serving rationalization of his own life's devotion to basic research but a fitting analysis of how major milestones in medical progress are achieved. One is at a loss to understand the reasoning behind the Government's present policy of declining financial support for basic medical research; it has crippled several research programmes and, very importantly, prevented the initiation of new ones.

I believe that the present situation is both unacceptable and extremely shortsighted.

Yours sincerely,  
RICHARD MOXON,  
University of Oxford,  
Department of Paediatrics,  
John Radcliffe Hospital,  
Headington, Oxford.  
September 17.

### Post office closures

From Mr S. C. Whitbread

Sir, One of the apparently unforeseen effects of the closure of rural post offices is the intolerable strain this puts on the main offices in local towns.

A lady in her late seventies living in my village recently visited the nearest post office she can now reach by public transport (the village post office having been closed last year) - only to find that she was thirty-seventh in the queue.

Yours faithfully,  
S. C. WHITBREAD,  
Southill Park,  
Biggleswade,  
Bedfordshire.  
September 24.

### Living dangerously

From Mr Robin Ollington

Sir, Travellers on Romanian air lines are in emergency exhortation: Exit according to rule, first leg and then head; Remove high heels and synthetic stockings before evacuation; Open the door, take out the recovery life and throw it away.

Yours faithfully,  
ROBIN OLLINGTON,  
8 St Helens Road,  
Northampton.  
September 13.







Today the Advertising Association opens its biennial conference on the theme, A Talent To Sell? This Special Report examines the reputation of British advertising as the best in the world

# Advertising

A leading executives from advertising agencies, their client companies and the media assemble today for the biennial Advertising Association conference, they may be forgiven for being in a cheerful mood. For the business of advertising and marketing is now starting to receive the recognition in the UK that it has long had in countries such as the US, and there are signs that it is taking on a new - and, some would say, overdue - importance in the economic life of the country.

The evidence is to be found on all sides: the astonishing rise in advertising expenditure in the last three years, despite the recession; the City's eagerness to invest in advertising and marketing companies; a general awareness in companies throughout the country, in most product fields, of the need to tailor the product to the needs and wants of the customer; and, perhaps most significant of all, an acceptance by government and consumer organizations that advertising plays a significant part in keeping down prices by stimulating competition.

This latter role is now sufficiently recognized for the Office of Fair Trading, the Consumers Association and the Government to be pressing hard for the professions to remove their restrictions on members advertising their services and charges - pressure that has led to a flurry of activity in recent weeks as the country's largest accountancy firms have rushed to appoint advertising agencies.

## It will tell more about the service

The Advertising Association could hardly have wished for a finer testimonial as they begin their conference than that which appears in the current edition of *Which?*, the Consumers Association magazine.

"Advertising is good for you," proclaims a leading article written by the Consumers Association's legal officer, David Tench. "The legal profession has at last realized that and, from October this year, solicitors will be allowed to advertise."

"So far as the consumer is concerned, that's a good thing. It will tell us more about the services available and the prices charged. And it should encourage much needed competition and new ways of doing things."

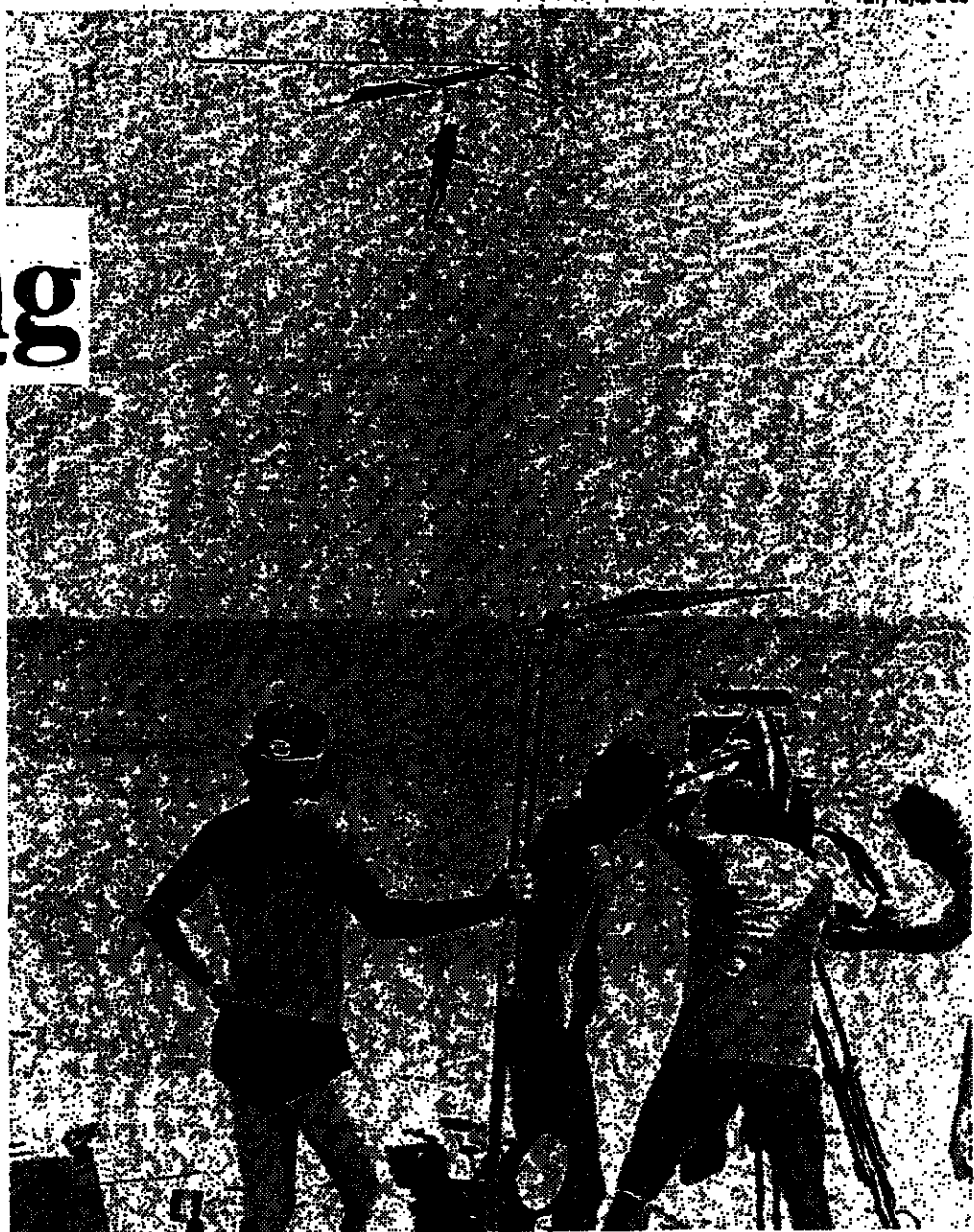
Such sentiments are a far cry from those prevalent 10 years ago, at the Advertising Association's 1974 conference, when the industry was under attack from both the OFT and the Government. At that conference, Shirley Williams, then Secretary of State for prices and consumer protection, and John Major, then Director of Fair Trading, threatened to introduce statutory controls over advertising unless the industry put its own house in order.

This led directly to a strengthening of the industry's voluntary control body, the Advertising Standards Authority, and the introduction of a levy on advertisers to pay for it. The recession which began in 1974 had a disastrous impact on advertising revenue. In real terms, advertising spending dropped by a fifth between 1974 and 1976 compared with the figure for 1973. Yet throughout the recent depression - generally accepted as being worse than any period since the Thirties - advertising expenditure has carried on growing.

The best year ever for advertising in real terms was 1983, with revenue growing by 14.5 per cent to £3.58bn and this year is forecast to be even better, according to Advertising Association figures. This buoyancy is one reason why marketing and advertising has become one of stock market's most highly rated sectors, reversing the City's long-held scepticism.

"Advertising and marketing services have emerged as one of the real growth sectors of the economy," Bill Seward and Mark Sheppard, of stockbrokers Phillips and Drew, said in *The Times* earlier this year. "Even during the 1980-82 recession, overall profit growth remained strong, as industry realized that even when most other forms of spending were being curtailed, marketing spending had to be maintained to ensure the longevity of brands."

This year's president of the Advertising Association is Sir Graham Williams, president of



Flying Scots: The Scottish Dairy Council's advertising team had to go to Florida to find the sun in November

the Beecham Group, one of the country's largest advertisers. While naturally gratified that attitudes towards advertising are now so positive, he warns against the industry lowering its guard.

## A look at the success factors

"Advertising in Britain now seems to be regarded as something of a success," he says. "The danger is that this view could lead to complacency."

The theme of the conference is A Talent To Sell? and the question mark at the end indicates that it is not simply going to be a congratulatory, back-slapping occasion. "It will look at the factors that indicate success," Sir

Graham says. "Advertisers have recognized the importance of advertising, increasing expenditure even during the recent recession years. The quality of British advertising now seems to be widely recognized as the best in the world. The City appreciates the importance of advertising as a necessary corporate cost."

"But it will go on to ask how real these factors are. Are we still being outspun by our foreign competitors? Is British advertising really better, or just different, and parochial at that? Are we being as imaginative in its use as some? We have asked advertisers to speak who we feel have particularly good examples of advertising used well and profitably." "We shall be trying to analyse why advertising in the UK is the way it is," says Chris Powell, joint managing director of Boase

Massimi Pollitt, and chairman of the conference organizing committee. "I believe one reason why much of the advertising in this country is so good is that we are getting better at managing talent, by establishing discipline in a way that does not stifle the creative element. But it is a paradox that while we seem to have the best advertising in the world, it is the importers - Britain's competitors - who are more inclined to invest in it."

"Nor is it just the advertising agencies that find this. One of our speakers is Nicholas Butler of BIB Design Consultants, who 'reinvented' the torch for Duracell. They do 80 per cent of their business abroad, because over here there seems to be little perception of the need for product design as an integral part of product innovation."

Torin Douglas

## How should a product be presented? The vital concept

One of the main themes of the Advertising Association conference this year is the concept of "adding value" to products by improving their performance, design and presentation to the public. This is an area in which advertising, by its influence on people's perception of a product or service, can play a crucial role, helping to establish particular brands with their own benefits and characteristics.

The concept has been demonstrated successfully by Britain's biggest company, ICI, most recently in the launch of two new paint products under the Dulux brand name - the "Natural Whites" range of shades, with names such as Apple White and Barley White, and "solid emulsion" paint. The case history is one of several which will be discussed at the conference.

Both products were conceived as ways of adding value to the most basic line on the paint market - white - and thus protecting Dulux's share of the business from the inroads being made by cheaper paints sold under retailers' own labels.

"The brilliant white market was in danger of becoming a commodity market," says Anne Ferguson, marketing manager for ICI Paints Division. "The brands were under threat and we had to stop that. What is significant is that two such dissimilar innovations should have come out of what were very similar objectives, from the same market background and the same company environment."

While the launch of solid emulsion was based on a technological breakthrough, producing a completely new type of paint which is more convenient to apply, the Natural Whites range was purely a marketing development, offering customers new and more subtle shades. Nevertheless, in

*"The image was important because this was not a great technological idea that could simply be demonstrated - we had to make it come to life"*

both cases complex planning and research was required before the decision to invest ICI's money in the products could be approved.

"In looking at ways to prevent white paint from becoming a commodity, we identified a consumer need for something more than white - people wanted to be braver in their choice of colours," Mrs Ferguson says.

Since its launch in 1982, the Natural Whites range has taken almost 20 per cent of the white

## The total teamwork approach



Anne Ferguson, marketing manager for ICI Paints Division, says: "We identified a need for something more than white - people wanted to be braver in their choice of colours"

paint market, more than fulfilling the company's expectations. The fact that it is a premium product sold at a premium price shows that people are willing to pay more for a quality product that fulfils a need, which is the whole essence of the adding-value philosophy.

But how much of a part did advertising play in the success of Natural Whites? "Advertising was terribly important," she said, "because this was not a great technological idea that could simply be demonstrated. We had to make it come to life."

The visual identity of the brand - very soft drawings of an apple, a rose and a lily, for the first three shades produced - was created not by the advertising agency, however, but by the designers responsible for the packaging of the range. The visuals were then given to the Dulux advertising agency, Foote Cone & Belding, who refined them and took them further.

"The agency thought up the line 'White - Not Quite' and

also the idea of using 'A Whiter Shade of Pale', as the music for the television commercial, which of course encapsulated the whole concept," says Mrs Ferguson. The advertising - on posters as well as television - fully reflected the gentle visual identity of the product which formed a central part of the brand's image.

"Solid emulsion was very different, of course," she adds. "While this was also developed to stop white becoming a commodity market, it was designed to meet a convenience need, not an aesthetic one. It was a straight technical development, stemming from our brief to research and development to produce a paint that was more convenient to apply."

"It comes in its own flat pack, ready for the roller, so there is no transfer from the can to the roller tray. Quite simply, there are no splashes and no drips. In this case, our brief to the advertising agency was a very different one from that of Natural Whites. We said: 'Here's the product, can you demonstrate it?'"

Foote, Cone & Belding's television commercial shows

*"These new lines actually deliver - they do what is expected of them. The consumer is very discerning; you cannot promise too much"*

a man in a dark suit, painting his living room ceiling, while his family carry on watching television. There are no overalls and no dustsheets. All goes well till he stands back to admire his handiwork and knocks over the ladder, falling into the solid emulsion.

"The other crucial point is that both the new lines actually deliver - they do what is expected of them. The consumer is very discerning and you cannot promise more than the product can deliver."

Mrs Ferguson considers there are four key elements in the development of new products so far as ICI Paints is concerned. "The commitment of the top management of the company; total teamwork on the part of the management working directly on the product - operations, sales and marketing; a good understanding of the market plan; and a good understanding of the brand itself, in this case Dulux."

"It is vital to understand the brand and what it stands for. One of the things I shall be saying at the conference is that we're not selling chemicals in cans, we're selling the transformation of rooms."

TD

# A NEW WAVE AGENCY. CIRCA 1970.

The advertising business is volatile. A sudden change in climate and even the most exciting new wave starts to recede.

Our growth has been based on fourteen years hard experience. Our billings have grown from £5 million in 1970 to £65 million this year. In fact in the last three years Davidson Pearce has grown faster than anyone else.

Over the years we welcomed the challenge. We encouraged exceptional talent. Together they brought us great advertising campaigns, strong client relationships and new business.

## Davidson Pearce

RIDING THE NEW WAVES SINCE 1970

ADVERTISING STANDARDS AUTHORITY  
ANGLO CONTINENTAL CLOCKS LIMITED  
ASHRIDGE MANAGEMENT COLLEGE  
BASS plc  
BATCHELORS FOODS LIMITED  
BP CHEMICALS LIMITED  
BRITISH AEROSPACE-AIRCRAFT GROUP  
BRITISH GAS  
BRITISH TELECOMMUNICATIONS plc  
BROOKE BOND OXO LIMITED  
CENTRAL OFFICE OF INFORMATION  
CHESEBROUGH-POND'S LIMITED  
COLT INTERNATIONAL  
CURRYS LIMITED  
ALFRED DUNHILL LIMITED  
ENGLISH HERITAGE  
FIAT AUTO (UK) LIMITED  
INTERNATIONAL STORES LIMITED  
INTERNATIONAL WOOL SECRETARIAT  
IRISH DISTILLERS LIMITED  
LANSING LIMITED  
LEVER BROTHERS LIMITED  
MEAT PROMOTION EXECUTIVE  
MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY  
P & O CRUISES LIMITED  
SPONTEX LIMITED  
SWAN HELLENIC CRUISES  
SYMBOL BISCUITS LIMITED  
TRANS WORLD AIRLINES  
TI GROUP plc  
VAN DEN BERGHS  
WALL'S MEAT COMPANY LIMITED



# Who spends most, why and with which agency

So huge is the expenditure at the top of the advertising league, and so familiar the names of most of the spenders, that it is a little surprising to learn that the biggest spender of all outstrips its nearest rival by more than 55 per cent.

The long-unchallenged champion is Procter and Gamble, makers of such household standbys as Ariel, Bold, Camay, Daz, Fairy and Flash. Last year, through five leading agencies, it spent an astonishing £53m, of which all but a tiny proportion went on television advertisements designed to persuade us that its products not only washed everything whiter and brighter than everyone else's, but were kinder to the hands and complexions of those who had the good sense to use them.

Second and third in the annual survey compiled by the trade magazine, *Campaign*, were two familiar names in the food world, Mars and Kellogg, both of which increased their spending substantially last year to £34m (1982, £27.5m) and £28.5m (1982, £14.5m) respectively.

## Same format

Also in the top ten were two other confectionery manufacturers, Rowntree Macintosh (£26.5m) and Cadbury (£13.5m), and Pedigree Petfoods, part of the Mars group, which spent slightly more than Cadbury on trying to persuade us that our dogs, cats and budgies would only be truly happy if fed on a diet of Chum, Pal, Kit E Kat, Whiskas and Trill.

All these companies concentrate almost exclusively on TV, last year spending only between 0.3 and 4.7 per cent of their respective budgets on press advertising. The advertisements themselves are generally simple and repetitive, and follow much the same format from year to year: chocolate and soap powder do not seem to lend

themselves to startling innovation. The top ten list is completed by two tobacco groups, Imperial and Gallaher, and by two quangoes, British Telecom and the Electricity Council. (An advertiser may be either a single company or a division or department of a larger organization, eg. Mars and Pedigree, Cadbury and Schweppes, which has its own independent budget. On a corporate basis Unilever would head the list, and HM Government would be sixth place.)

Unlike the food manufacturers, the tobacco companies are obliged by the ban on cigarette advertising on television to rely much more heavily on the press. Imperial and Gallaher poured a welcome £19m and £14m respectively into the coffers of grateful newspaper and magazine publishers.

With privatization imminent, British Telecom spent two and a half times as much last year as in 1982 (£24.5m compared with £10m), partly on telling a sceptical public that it was a world leader, if not the world leader in information technology and partly on promoting handsets in all sorts of new and exciting shapes and colours.

Moving down the list, the dominant companies were almost all manufacturers of consumer goods, primarily food (Nestlé, Heinz, United Biscuits, Birds Eye Walls, Brooke Bond Oxo, General Foods and Van den Berghs and Jurgens), cars (Vauxhall, Ford and Talbot) and soap and toilet preparations (Lever Brothers, Eida Gibbs). With the exceptions of General Foods, who make, among other things, Maxwell House coffee and Van den Berghs, the margarine specialists, most spent considerably more than in 1982, in Brooke Bond's case nearly twice as much.

Another nationalized company with privatization in its sights, and hence eager to polish

its corporate image, was British Airways, which increased expenditure from £7.5m to £13.5m. More than 90 per cent of that went to television.

Perhaps the most surprising arrival on the big time scene was the National Westminster Bank, which moved from 101st to 26th place by almost trebling its budget from £4.5m to £13m. The largest spending brewer was Bass (£12.5m) and the leading retailer was the Co-Operative Retail Society, which spent slightly less than that. Bernard Matthews, of the "bootiful" turkeys, crept into 99th spot by increasing expenditure from £2m to more than £5m.

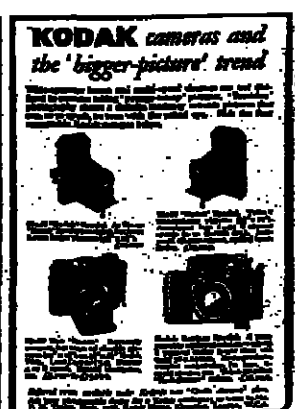
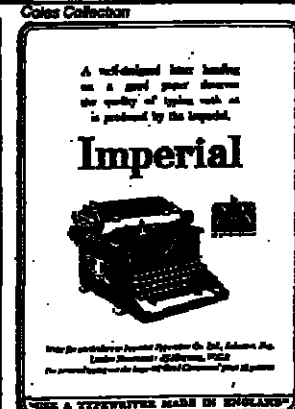
## Washday miracles

The most surprising thing about the list is that it contains so few surprises. The big advertisers are overwhelmingly those who have been around for a long time and whose products have been familiar for years and decades. The new space-age microelectronic and computer firms are conspicuous by their absence and, though no doubt television sets will look very different in the year 2050, it seems a fairly safe bet that our grandchildren will still be goggling at the latest washday miracles.

## John Young



Leading the Advertising Association: Jeremy Bullmore, Chairman (and Chairman of J. Walter Thompson) and Roger Underhill, Director-General.



The Graphophone may have gone with the dinosaur early model which was not adapted to modern life. Typewriters, cameras and safety glasses are still with us - after a certain amount of natural selection. Advertising from the past, with its earnest and sober dwelling on facts and figures, using not only a dead language but also a dignified sprinkling of Capital Letters can be viewed as a mixture of nostalgia and incredulity. Advertising today has a strong design element and an element of wit.

# The rise and rise of the new Brits

The advertising agency business has undergone a transformation in the past five years, both in the way it works and the way it is perceived, and to a large extent British companies - rather than the UK subsidiaries of American agencies - have been the main beneficiaries.

The unprecedented success of Saatchi & Saatchi, which is now the world's seventh largest agency group and owns three agencies within the UK's top 10, is obviously a major element in the changes. The growth of Saatchi's and the agency's assiduous cultivation of the City has fundamentally altered the way advertising agencies - and the business of advertising itself - are perceived by the financial institutions.

At the same time, a new wave of agencies has emerged, owned and run by people who had held top jobs in the big established agencies, and these new firms

have succeeded in attracting major advertisers such as Whitbread, BMW and the Government's Central Office of Information.

The first of these agencies, set up with much ballyhoo and hype five years ago, was Wight Collins Rutherford Scott, which is now on the brink of the top 20 with billings of around £40m. Last year it became the first agency to go public on the Unlisted Securities Market. The agency's chairman, Robin Wight, will be speaking at the Advertising Association conference, describing how his agency's campaign promoting the Government's policy for small businesses achieved more than three times the expected response.

In the last five years, the centre of gravity has shifted to a new generation of agencies," he says. "The cream has poured itself into new bottles. There is nothing new about people starting up agencies, but if you compare the last five years with the five years before that you will find that the difference lies in the nature of the new agencies. There has never been this much top talent setting up agencies before."

The biggest of the new wave of agencies is Lowe Howard Spink Campbell-Ewald, which was sixteenth in the billings league last year and went public earlier this year. Originally a breakaway from Collett Dickinson Pearce it merged last year with the American-owned Wasy Campbell-Ewald, the

British directors taking the majority shareholding and the key executive posts.

Other new agencies that are growing fast include Wight Collins, Grandfield Rork Collins, Gold Greenlees Trotter, Leagas Delaney and Bartle Bogle Hegarty, all of whose principals once held top jobs in big agencies.

However, there is evidence that the new wave is coming to an end, partly because those people who were likely to take the plunge have done so, partly because the big agencies have taken care to lock their key people in with better salaries and partly because the novelty value of being one of the new wave agencies has worn off. Now that there are so many of them, several of the new agencies that might have been expected to do well have found the competition too hot.

## Split commission in different ways

One reason for the sudden rise of the new agencies was the Office of Fair Trading's ruling in 1978 changing the way that agencies were paid by their clients. Traditionally, agencies have received 15 per cent commission from the media owner on the value of the time and space bought, and one condition imposed by the media owners was that none of this commission should be paid back to the client. This pre-

vented agencies from competing on price and the OFT ruled it a restrictive practice.

The most immediate effect of this ruling, which made it legitimate for an advertiser to split the commission payment in whatever way he chose, was to boost the business of the "media independents", a relatively new breed of company specialising in the media planning and buying function. There are now around thirty such firms, run by former media directors of top agencies, and their business has trebled in the past five years.

This in turn made it possible for new advertising agencies to set up without having to find the huge financial guarantees required by the media owners.

With campaigns often running into millions of pounds, media owners insist on pre-payment from firms who cannot meet the financial requirements for official recognition. The new agencies were able to piggy-back on the recognition of the media independents, who booked and bought the media space for them.

Despite the rise of the new agencies and the media independents, most of the long-standing large agencies continue to do well and the traditional "full service" concept of having all your advertising services - creative, media and account management - in one company is still the norm, as Bert de Vos, chairman of one of top three

agencies, D'Arcy-MacManus & Masius, points out.

"The incredible resilience of the big full-service agencies over the past 20 years is there for everyone to see, not least in the degree to which the new agencies - who started with a media independent so their directors would not be viewed as mortgaging their homes - have modelled themselves on the paradigm of a full-service agency, adding on their own media and planning departments."

## Better value from their budget

Nevertheless, the pressures on agency managements remain. Many large clients are reconsidering the way they buy their advertising services as a result of the changes in the past five years, either asking their agencies to work for less - often considerably less - than 15 per cent, or most recently by centralizing the media-buying function and having it handled by a single media independent or full-service agency, instead of by several.

So far this year, Heinz, Bass, British Telecom and Allied Breweries have taken the decision to operate in this way, in the hope of getting better value from their budgets, and the agency business senses that a bandwagon is in motion that will not come to a halt for some time.

TD

# You'd be younger and richer if you read the Daily Mail.

## A contest for creativity

Acceptance of that old motto that it pays to advertise has now permeated society so thoroughly, that even solicitors and accountants are now relaxing the rules governing the promotion of their businesses. For industry and commerce as a whole it has long been accepted that advertising works - to the extent that companies spent around £3,500m on this particular activity last year.

At the same time, it has got to be acknowledged that some advertisement work much better than others. So it is worth pausing for a moment to ask what the role of advertising is, and what clients can reasonably expect.

First, despite the criticisms one hears of "hard sell" advertising, most advertising does not sell. For a start, it is seen by customers in their homes or when they are travelling, and are not in a position to buy anything.

## Desirability

Usually the most that an ad can do is build awareness of, a reluctance, a preference for, a particular brand or service.

Second, advertising is just one part of what is called the marketing mix. A manufacturer has got to develop a product that his potential customers will want, he has to price it realistically, and he has to ensure that it is available through appropriate outlets. Then he has to let his public know of the availability, and desirability, of his product, and that's the job of advertising. It can be so much wasted money if the manufacturer does not get the other elements right, too.

An example of marketing in which all these factors meshed happily together is Wall's Viennezza ice cream. The product, an imitation in ice

cream and this leaves of chocolate, of mille feuille pastries, was designed to woo consumers away from the plain buckets of vanilla which dominate the growing "take-home" market. Launched in 1982, it is now Wall's best-selling ice cream, with sales expected to top £15m this year.

Initial advertising for Viennezza was restricted to women's magazines, but when it became clear that the ads were being successful in stimulating interest and demand, a TV commercial was tested in the Anglian region in the autumn of 1982. Anglia has about 6 per cent of the national population, up to the time the ice cream was put on TV, accounted for 6.3 per cent of sales of Viennezza.

Once the commercial was screened, however, sales in the Anglian region soared to 25 per cent of the national total. It was clearly time to extend the TV campaign nationally.

Said Mike Bowman, a director of Wall's agency, SSC&B: "One interesting point about the way the advertising may be working here is that, in reality no-one has to buy ice cream, but probably everyone would like to buy it. People need to be reminded that there is something special to which they can treat themselves. When that something is as special as Viennezza, just showing them is enough to motivate them."

Most advertising competitions are designed to award

creativity. In many respects, this is fair enough - creative skill, the ability to get the message over with impact, is what the client is paying for.

However, it is possible to get carried away with the brilliance of the idea, and to forget the central purpose of advertising. Many people can remember particular TV commercials, for example, while being totally confused about which brands the ads were promoting.

The Institute of Practitioners in Advertising has a sense of realism to the situation with its own competition, the Advertising Effectiveness Award. It is held every two years, with the latest crop of prizewinners due to be announced at the beginning of November. The aims of this two-foot-on-the-ground competition include, *inter alia*, "to provide a clear demonstration that advertising can be proven to work, against measurable criteria".

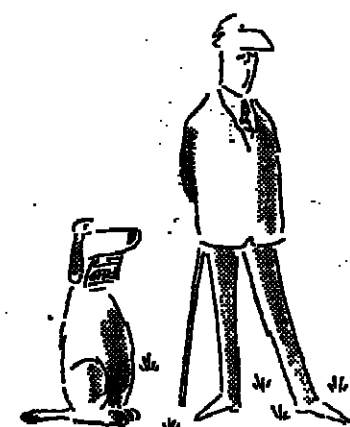
## Press campaign

Winners of first prizes in the 1982 competition included the National Savings Bank which pulled in £50m in savings through a press campaign costing £400,000; and a Home Office drive against crime which more than doubled the sales of window locks in the region selected for the campaign, compared with a test area. Kellogg's picked up two awards, for the successful launch of Super Noodles, and for its corn flakes advertising on milk bottles.

But the top award went to Courage's John Smith's bitter, where a £300,000 investment in advertising in Yorkshire contributed to an extra £25m of pub revenue, at a time when beer sales generally were declining.

Ken Gofton

# Field readers own a mere fifth of the country.



So there's acres of room for expansion. Unless you know them all personally there's never been a better way of talking to the extremely rich. One in five Field readers owns an estate of more than 1500 acres. And last year alone Field readers spent over £100 million just on changing their cars. From October they'll notice The Field has

changed. Its sole aim will be to give even greater pleasure to an even greater number of wealthy people. Should you care to join them, you need hunt no further. For your copy of the new Field, call Sarah Kemp on 01-353 2753 and check out our cost per millionaire.



The Daily Mail is read by more affluent young people than any other national daily. So if you want to move products fast the Daily Mail is the paper with the talent to sell.

Source: NRS EMI, Jan-June 84 based on top income under 45 heads of household/child wage earners.



## Seeking that ineffable spark

Numbers abound in advertising. Consumer sales are tracked by Nielsen or the Television Consumer Audit. Demographic data flow from the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys. Spending figures are supplied by Media Expenditure Analysis Ltd. And so on.

With the revolution in data processing in recent years, it was only a matter of time before the industry began seriously to apply computer-based techniques of number-crunching. And with numbers has come a set of models, many borrowed from econometrics, for spinning out the results of advertising strategies.

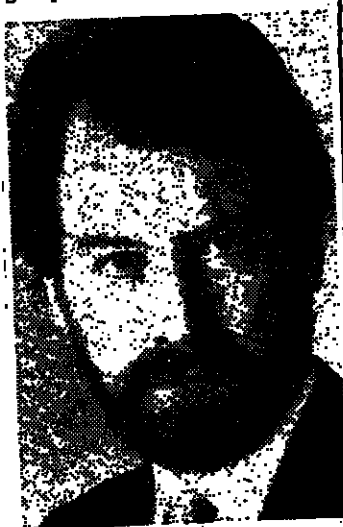
Mike Waterson, research director of the Advertising Association, is an enthusiast, a believer in quantitative techniques that can net out the impact of advertising from the host of variables which can influence the sales of a product.

To him beckons a goal that was first sighted in the 1920's when modern mass advertising began - the dream that the effects of promotion can be measured, the effectiveness of campaigns predicted, in short, the dream of a science of advertising.

"Hold on," says Chris Cowpe of Boase Massim Pollitt, voicing what is perhaps the majority view in the agency world. "We still don't understand the way advertising works. Yes, we spend lots of time and money struggling to provide more effective service, but don't let's pretend we can construct an equation for success."

There is no disagreement over the recent growth in the importance of research within advertising - reflected in the rapid expansion of the market research companies and the rapprochement within agencies between "creative" staff and the quantifiers.

Mr Cowpe says: "Anyone innuendoes will not go far in advertising these days." Indeed most of the big agencies, having installed their computer terminals, now employ or have easy access to sophisticated econometric modellers - a group whose contribution to the



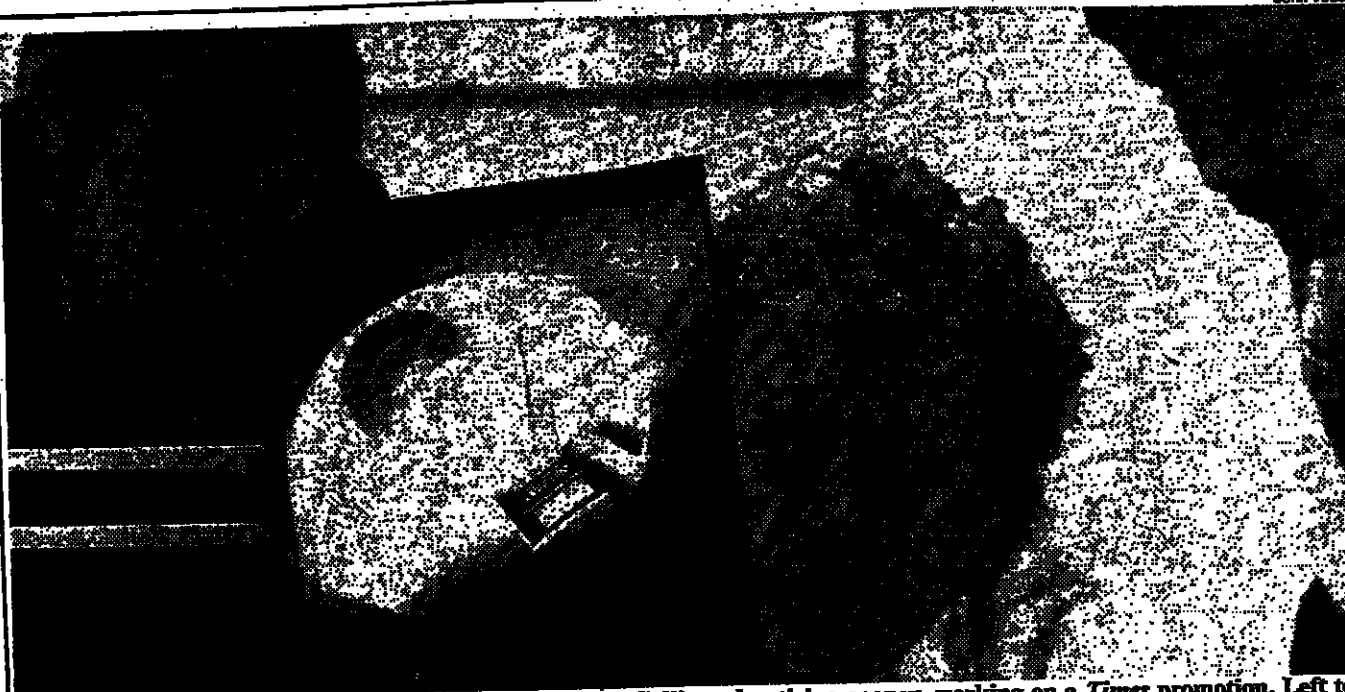
Mike Waterson: enthusiast

advertising industry is only just beginning. "Agencies need skills they didn't require before," says Simon Broadbent, vice chairman of Leo Burnett Ltd and something of a guru in the new field.

There is a danger of oversteering the contribution of higher mathematics, he acknowledges. But in an influential paper published recently in the *International Journal of Advertising* Dr Broadbent concluded that the trouble given by economic theory was worthwhile: changes in spending on advertising on a broad had a predictable and measurable effect on sales volume and profitability.

Ideally the new research emphasis will accommodate the industry's traditional respect for intuition, for the ineffable spark of creativity. Few would try to substitute the new methods for creative wizardry. Mr Waterson says: "There are still 50 big agencies that operate with people who cannot add two and two. Why? Because we'll never provide more of those."

David Walker



Close to home: creative minds at Grandfield, Rork and Collins advertising agency, working on a Times promotion. Left to right Chris Browne (writer), Andy Rork (creative director) and Roger Cazenage (art director)

## New messages, old media

Direct mail advertising came of age during the run-up to the 1983 general election and its patron was Cecil Parkinson. Mr Parkinson, then chairman of the Conservative Party, led an American-influenced team at Central Office in putting together for the first time in British politics a mailing list of subscribers/supporters as the basis of a campaign.

The Conservative Party's tentative mailings to supporters last year were only a beginning of what some people see as a bright future for direct mail advertising in politics but in the advertising market-place. The recent mobilization of client lists by financial institutions, notably the insurance companies, presaged the use of direct mail techniques even by traditionally conservative advertisers.

As advertisers become educated, so direct mail will grow, is the prediction offered by Mr Robin Fairlie of the Direct Mail Services Standards Board. The judgment is perhaps self-interested: the board is part-funded by the Post Office. But Mr Fairlie's optimism is mirrored by industry observers who, looking at market shares in European countries and in the US, see evidence that the medium in Britain is still comparatively underdeveloped.

Mike Waterson of the Advertising Association notes that in advertising by post "the amount spent on media transmission is not known to the media owner, the Post Office, since the postal system is a medium for transmitting many forms of message of which advertising is just one".

Thanks to the new spirit of managerialism within the Post Office, efforts have been made in recent years to survey the types of mail carried and the corporation now produces what are regarded as reasonably reliable figures for direct mail advertising. There is striking growth in the scale of direct mail operations - a doubling in the number of items dispatched in less than a decade. Until 1982 this growth was reflected in direct mail's increasing share of the total annual expenditure on advertising which rose to nearly 10 per cent.

A drop in market share during 1983 is ascribed to a sharp reduction in the activity of the big mail order houses, including Grattans and GUS. In 1982 some 333 million items were dispatched by mail order companies to advertise their inventory; this fell to 264 million in 1983, only just above the 1980 level.

The range of products advertised by direct mail suggests there is no special affinity between lines and this medium although the success of the Readers' Digest Association indicates how well it works with mail order products, especially books and records. "The kind of product, for example domestic appliances, the customer wants to see and test, is obviously less suitable," Mr Fairlie says. "And yet in the sale of cars direct mail has been found to be a splendid advertising medium in keeping in touch with most customers and advising on new models."

The strength of direct mail compared with "broadcast" media can be its concentration on a highly selected group of potential customers. Department stores have in their lists of account customers access to known spenders; likewise insurance companies and building societies.

And yet there is evidence that direct mail is a close competitor of one of the least specific of media - television. In the summer the Advertising Association reported a study from Sweden showing that, at least in Scandinavia, television advertising tends to have a much greater impact on the volume of newspaper and periodical advertising.

In Western European countries where television advertising is relatively unimportant (for example because of govern-

ment restrictions) direct mail occupies a large share of the market. In Sweden and Denmark, as in the Netherlands and Switzerland, direct mail takes up to 30 per cent of total advertising expenditure - and in these countries television advertising is below 10 per cent. The converse applies in Britain, Italy and Spain.

Most industry observers agree that the growth in volume of direct mail, until 1982, owed much to the willingness of the Post Office to market its services.

A more serious bottleneck for the growth of direct mail than the imperfections of the postal services is possibly the comparative under-development of list brokerage - the gathering of reliable target data.

"Direct mail's strength is that it can zero in on an audience," Mr Fairlie says, and that gives the possessors of large amounts of consumer data - for example the nationalized energy utilities - an interest in its use: expect more promotional material with the next gas bill. DW

## The fierce battle for revenue in a difficult market

The advertising industry is on the crest of a wave and, like any surfer, must be wondering how long the exhilarating ride can continue.

For the moment, at least, all looks well. Total spending on advertising last year, excluding direct mail, totalled £3,579m. This was a 14.5% increase on the 1982 figure of £3,126m, and represented almost a quadrupling of the £967m spent in the recessionary depths of 1975.

Such growth implies that the country must now be awash with advertising, but that is not really the case. The fact is that the cost of advertising has risen very much faster than inflation, reflecting a healthy demand from those who want to promote their products and services.

The volume of advertising, though not easy to monitor accurately, has increased much less. For example, the amount of advertising time allowed on ITV is very strictly controlled, and until recently had not increased since commercial television began.

ITV companies are required to limit the advertising they carry to an average of six minutes an hour, and a maximum of seven.

For the past two years - as a concession because of the start-up costs surrounding Channel 4, and the protracted dispute between the IPA and the actors' union Equity - they have been allowed to run as much as eight minutes of advertising in peak viewing hours.

The companies would now like to see this concession made permanent. It would, of course, also have a very beneficial effect on their revenue.

The advent of Channel 4 and

## Television versus the rest

TVam has also increased the available "volume" of television advertising time, though both are minority channels.

On the press side, apart from the increase in the number of colour supplements, the story is much the same. Says Mike Waterson, the Advertising Association's research director: "When an economy first pulls out of recession, the first priority of publishers is to firm up their rates, and stop allowing substantial discounts. Only when a recovery is well established do you start to see big increases in the number of pages."

But one area that is growing like a rocket at the moment and should really boom in the next six months is classified advertising.

There is still a slow but remorseless trend for television to take an increasing slice of the advertising cake: its share has risen from 24.4 per cent in 1975, to 31 per cent last year, with press, including national and regional newspapers and magazines, dipping over the same period from 70.2 to 62.5 per cent. The poster and transport sector is fairly stable, at around 4 per cent, radio is slowly making ground at a little over 2 per cent, cinema, with

decline. The US is often regarded as

the home of advertising, notching up the massive expenditure of \$43,150m (about £34,800m) in 1982. This is 10 times the UK figure, for a population four times the size. Interestingly, though, advertising expenditure as a percentage of Gross National Product is very similar in both countries, at around 1.3 to 1.4 per cent.

Lacking the strong national newspaper industry of the UK, mainly because of the great distances involved, the American press takes about 54 per cent of the advertising spend. Commercial radio with a much longer history in the US than here, consistently holds a 10 to 11 per cent share. Only 12.6 per cent of West German advertising expenditure went on TV in 1982, and for Belgium, the Netherlands, and France, the figure was even lower.

France must be one of the few countries in the world where cinema advertising was still growing in 1982 and at 16 per cent, was significantly higher than TV advertising. It is an easy gibe to suggest that this says much about the quality of French films and even more about the quality of its television. But the reason why TV has such a small slice of total advertising in many of the Continental countries is because the restrictions on advertising air time are much stricter than the UK.

This is also reflected in the total advertising expenditure figures, which amounted to £2,600m in Germany and £1,400m in France, in 1982, compared with £3,126m here.

Ken Goffon  
Deputy editor, Marketing

# DO ADVERTISEMENTS SOMETIMES DISTORT THE TRUTH?

The short answer is yes, some do. Every week hundreds of thousands of advertisements appear for the very first time.

Nearly all of them play fair with the people they are addressed to.

A handful do not. They misrepresent the products they are advertising.

As the Advertising Standards Authority it is our job to make sure these ads are identified, and stopped.

## WHAT MAKES AN ADVERTISEMENT MISLEADING?

If a training course had turned a 7 stone weakling into Mr Universe the fact could be advertised because it can be proved.

But a promise to build 'you' into a 15 stone he-man would have us flexing our muscles because the promise could not always be kept.

'Makes you look younger' might be a reasonable claim for a cosmetic.

But pledging to 'take years off your life' would be an overclaim akin to a promise of eternal youth.

A garden centre's claim that its seedlings would produce 'a riot of colour in just a few days' might be quite contrary to the reality.

Such flowery prose would deserve to be pulled out by the roots.

If a brochure advertised a hotel as being '5 minutes walk to the beach', it must not require an Olympic athlete to do it in the time.

As for estate agents, if the phrase 'overlooking the river' translated to 'backing onto a ditch', there would be nothing for it but to show their ad the door.

## HOW DO WE JUDGE THE ADS WE LOOK INTO?

Our yardstick is The British Code of Advertising Practice.

Its 500 rules give advertisers precise practical guidance on what they can and cannot say. The rules are also a gauge for media owners to assess the acceptability of any advertising they are asked to publish.

The Code covers magazines, newspapers, cinema commercials, brochures,

leaflets, posters, circulars posted to you, and now commercials on video tapes.

The ASA is not responsible for TV and radio advertising. Though the rules are very similar they are administered by

we or the public challenge to back up their claims with solid evidence.

If they cannot, or refuse to, we ask them either to amend the ads or withdraw them completely.

Nearly all agree without any further argument.

In any case we inform the publishers, who will not knowingly accept any ad which we have decided contravenes the Code.

If the advertiser refuses to withdraw the advertisement he will find it hard if not impossible to have it published.

## WHOSE INTERESTS DO WE REALLY REFLECT?

The Advertising Standards Authority was not created by law and has no legal powers.

Not unnaturally some people are sceptical about its effectiveness.

In fact the Advertising Standards Authority was set up by the advertising business to make sure the system of self control worked in the public interest.

For this to be credible, the ASA has to be totally independent of the business.

Neither the chairman nor the majority of ASA council members is allowed to have any involvement in advertising.

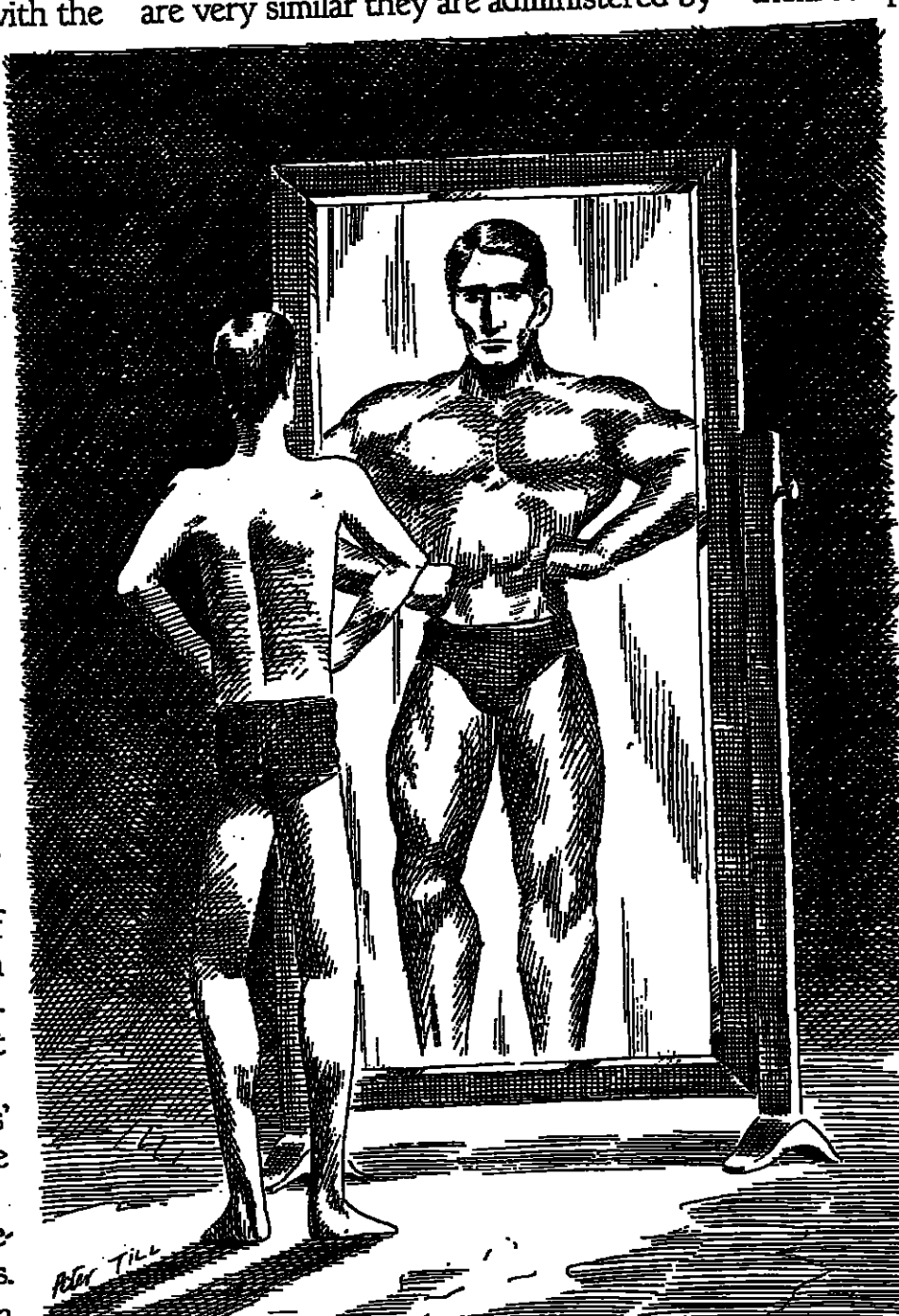
Though administrative costs are met by a levy on the business, no advertiser has any influence over ASA decisions.

Advertisers are aware it is as much in their own interests as it is in the public's that honesty should be seen to prevail.

If you would like to know more about the ASA and the rules it seeks to enforce you can write to us at the address below for an abridged copy of the Code.

**The Advertising Standards Authority**  
If an advertisement is wrong, we're here to put it right.

ASA Ltd, Dept. T, Brook House, Torrington Place, London WC1E 7HN.



readers  
re fifth  
untry!

## Trader GROUP NEWSPAPERS

Trader newspapers carry an average of 25.1% editorial coverage.

Trader newspapers are delivered to 763,629 homes in the Midlands every week.

HERBY TRADER, 50 Avenue, Derby, 22,277 weekly, 23% editorial.

NOTTINGHAM TRADER, 57 Sandford Street, Nottingham, 179,798 weekly, 30% editorial.

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## Satellites: towards the big take-off

There are several cogent reasons why advertisers are beginning to think hard about the way their message is getting across to the public on commercial television.

Research quoted at a London cable seminar this summer suggested for one thing that the average viewer is not as attentive to the breaks between the programmes as in the past. Repetition dulls their perception of the message being put across and new skills and techniques are constantly being brought into play to combat the rising tide of indifference.

Richard Hawkes, of McCann-Erickson Advertising, also brought out the important point that rises in the cost of broadcast television airtime are far in excess of the retail price index.

(This is further underlined in last month's media bulletin of another agency, Young and Rubicam, which gives the cost of a 30-second maximum peak-rate slot on Thames Television from this month as £21,700, a 20 per cent increase on the previous figure; Central charges £15,500, which is 11 per cent

up, according to the Y & R figures.)

The question now is whether, given an increase in the amount of advertising the companies are allowed to carry and there are moves, so far unofficial, to increase the daily average from six to seven minutes an hour and the peak maximum from seven to eight, the rates themselves will drop.

Net advertising receipts approaching £1,000m are forecast for this year and it is being argued that extra income is needed to continue support for Channel 4 and for the proposed direct broadcasting by satellite (DBS) system. Industry experts are unclear about the future prospects for advertisers offered by both cable and DBS.

John Malloes, media director of Y & R says that for many major advertisers, television is still the most powerful medium at their disposal and there are trade reasons, among others, why they cannot afford not to be seen on TV. He adds: "They continue to pay the price because, though expensive, it continues to produce results.

GROSS ADVERTISING REVENUE TV and Channel 4			
000s	% ±	1983	
January	75,473	+18	
February	81,882	+21	
March	90,000	+8	
April	87,532	+16	
May	83,008	+14	
June	86,982	+91	
July	76,734	+20	
August	87,627	+13	
September	97,818	+11	
October	124,012	+11	
November	128,481	+13	
December	108,946	+16	
	1,118,811	+15	

Note: January to May is actual expenditure; Y & R estimate

This is not to say that if there was some alternative, they would not be experimenting with it.

He believes there has been "tremendous exaggeration" by the media on who is subscribing to the new cable services. "We face the difficulty of getting reliable figures on what the usage of cable in its current form actually is."

It is a question of what people, many heavily into video, can afford. Advertisers

may find it more beneficial in the long-run to concentrate their campaigns into much tighter and more localised packages. But this is still in the future.

Cable gives this far tighter geographical targeting. But Richard Hawkes warns that cable will not get revenue until sponsored programming if any kind from advertisers and their agencies until they are offered something worth buying. Legislation is still being written. The cable authority has yet to be formed, let alone give its rulings.

If legislation allows, cable will, Hawkes suggests, offer new ways of approaching the target audience, and this could be through longer than normal commercials providing more information (the so-called infomercial) or made-for-cable programming (full sponsorship).

The big question mark continues to hang over satellite broadcasting. In a recent letter to *The Times*, Roger Graef, the producer, and Professor Shrenberg, of the London Business School, questioned the commer-

cial prospects for the £400m project to be a success, they argued, depended on the existence of an as yet unproved market.

News International, the owner of Sky Channel, has announced discussions to place the English-language service on a new French satellite, TDF1, due to come into operation the year after next. But one media survey reckons the Government is unlikely to consent to individuals receiving the service some two years ahead of the joining BBC/TBA DBS venture as it has already announced it will restrict such other forms of competition.

But Sky Channel is a welcome development since it marks the start of competition and this has to be beneficial.

For now, though, conventional terrestrial commercial television remains king. "Look at the time scales involved," Malloes says, "and things are that little bit further away than they are often represented, as being."

Kenneth Gosling

## The argument remains, how much can you teach?

Advertising education is in flux. The industry's principal validating body, the Communication Advertising and Marketing Education Foundation (CAM), is riven with doubts about its future role. Its chief executives, Norman Hart, has just resigned.

There is talk of absorbing CAM into the Advertising Association (AA). Within the industry there is a strong if inchoate sense that vocational training is badly organized: too formalized, some say; insufficiently rigorous, say others.

And within the colleges and polytechnics there is a dawning realization that academic institutions have, as government ministers are wont to say, failed to keep up with industry's needs, failed to adapt to changing circumstances, failed to appreciate they, too, have a market to serve.

The pattern of education in advertising is, roughly, this. Pre-entry qualification is limited for the industry's generalist. Some further education and polytechnic courses in, for example, business studies offer an advertising component but few graduates present themselves with anything resembling a training. (The picture is obviously different for specialists in, say, art and design.)

Training taken place on the job - agencies differ markedly in their enthusiasm for formal schemes - and through continuing education. CAM was formed in 1969 as a way of aligning and coordinating the variety of qualifications offered.

Diversity was and still one of CAM's major problems. The foundation - charity based at the AA's Victoria offices - is sponsored by 23 separate

professional interests representing the gamut from public relations through to market research.

In principle the sequence of CAM certificates and diplomas (CAM validates the courses taught in further education colleges and polytechnics) meshed with such qualifications as the Institute of Marketing diploma, the Diploma in Management Studies, the examinations of the Institute of Public Relations and the few post-graduate degrees offering an advertising element.

It is a complex world bounded on one side by such public agencies as the Council for National Academic Awards, which oversees the examinations set by the polytechnics and colleges and on the other by the advertising industry itself and the differing demands of the

larger advertising agencies and the smaller specialist outfits.

CAM has managed to establish some uniformity across this disparate field. Some 3,000 students are on its courses. Testimonials from advertising industry employers suggest that job applicants with a CAM qualification are - at certain levels - preferable. For some agency executives CAM diplomas are for the "other ranks": the "officers" - high flying university graduates often with arts degrees - are trained in house or dispatched to specialist seminars organized by the AA or the other bodies.

Ogilvy and Mather is typical of the larger, more sophisticated agency. It recruits graduates; picks those with superior academic background plus that spark of gregariousness and

creativity which signals star quality. ("Not people with firsts," says "Tubby" Fischer, President of O&M and a grand old man of advertising education, "they tend to be well-intervolved.") Training is provided. Staff are given the opportunity to acquire CAM qualifications but the agency by no means insists.

The Institute of Practitioners in Advertising produces elaborate courses and seminars to which staff can be sent.

What few in advertising doubt is that there is a cohesive body of knowledge and skills that can be taught and which provides a basis for much of the industry's work. The question of the moment is whether that body of knowledge is best acquired by formal means.

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# THE ARTS

## Opera

### Wagner at the edge of the world

Tannhäuser  
Covent Garden

Of all Wagner's canonical operas *Tannhäuser* has proved the most difficult to stage in modern times. The last Covent Garden production, new only 11 years ago, had an exceedingly short life, and has now been replaced by a production of Elijah Moshinsky's that at last seeks out and tackles the work's problems.

At the root of those problems is the fact that *Tannhäuser* was the seedbed for such a lot of later Wagner. The song contest, of course, went into *Die Meistersinger*, the chivalric spectacle into *Lohengrin*. But perhaps the deeper consciousness of the deeper consciousness is with *Parsifal*, where the sensual Venus and the spiritual Elisabeth become united in the figure of Kundry while *Tannhäuser*, as sinner and traveller, splits into Amfortas and Parsifal. Indeed, so much came out of *Tannhäuser* that it may appear very little is left to give this opera a character of its own.

It is, however, this bareness that provides Mr Moshinsky with his key. His other Wagner productions, of *Lohengrin* at Covent Garden and of *The Mastersingers* at the Coliseum, have owed their success partly to a highly appropriate placing. *Tannhäuser*, with the help of Timothy O'Brien as designer, he locates at the edge of the world. The action takes place on a round platform of variegated pattern, coolly embraced by a semicircular cyclorama at head height: the rest is a blackness into which Elisabeth departs for her death and Venus for her eclipse.

The spare set provides a magical screen for Nick Cheon's lighting, and yet it accords with the choice of the 1860 edition of the score, the so-

called "Dresden version". This has been slightly adapted, most notably by effecting a cut from the overture into the Venusberg music, which allows Sir Kenneth MacMillan's choreography to begin seamlessly. What happens here is a rapid display of gymnastics, angular poses and sundry contortions that did not strike me as particularly sexy, except in the obvious way, but I leave it to others to judge. In any event, the absence of the Paris bacchanal means that the ballet is relatively short, and one does not have to wait too long before being introduced to Klaus König's Tannhäuser and Eva Randova's Venus.

Miss Randova is strikingly dressed in light-catching black and a huge auburn wig enough to excite the envy even of the women of *Dallas*. She stands and sings with great confidence, and not always quite on the note, the voice more imperious than beguiling, a worrying vibrato on Tuesday night was less troublesome in the third act.

Mr König does not cut so impressive a figure. He certainly gets the words across, and feels them musically, but he too was beset by wobble, and also by a slightly rasping greyness of timbre that kept him from displaying full vocal prowess in the middle act. However, his stage presence and his vocal qualities fitted him well for the finale, where he came on looking haggard indeed from his journey. His unflinching performance here set the seal on a most impressive realization of the third act in extreme emptiness.

The second act is not quite so wonderful. The Warburg ball is the golden apex of some basilica fittingly enough, but it is peopled by a curious collection of types. Apparently Giotto was the inspiration for Luciano Arrighi's cos-



Nobility, intelligence, fine singing: Thomas Allen in the final scene with Klaus König (lying)

times, but Giotto worked in paint, not cloth, and surely cannot be blamed for all these tannish habits and priestly vestments in sugar almond colours. To add to the confusion, the singers are dressed in black robes as sacristans, while the acolytes are bar mitzvah boys. But perhaps the intention is to indicate a world as artificial as Venus's, one shatteringly disrupted in a telling

coup de théâtre when Tannhäuser speaks the name of the Venusberg. Another strong presence in the middle act is that of Gwyneth Jones as Elisabeth. She is no plaster saint but a warmly emotional woman, and she sings so forthrightly and generously, particularly in her third-act prayer, that her vibrato seems incidental. Also to be welcomed is the Wolfram of

Thomas Allen, who offers the finest singing of the evening in a performance of great nobility, affectionateness and intelligence. Among the rest, Fritz Hubner stands out for his stalwart Hermann, and Nicholas Sillitoe is a strong Shepherd Boy.

The opera is conducted by Sir Colin Davis, who may perhaps lack enthusiasm for his task. Orchestrally the performance points up the score's weaknesses for bombast, lusty student songs and Mendelssohn. There is, too, a lack of the longer breath, the disintegration at the start of the final act was too nearly the real thing. One would welcome more sense that the sound was, like the staging, laid bare to some purpose.

Paul Griffiths

## Television Festive gaiety

No question about the major event on the box last night (barring unscheduled horrors on the news): *The Wind* (Channel 4), starring Lillian Gish, which started a new series of silent classics refurbished by Brownlow, Gill and Davis. (To precede this with a new cinema history series, *Silent Please*, was a sensible piece of scheduling.) The silliest event on the box might just possibly have been another Channel 4 programme, *Diverse Reports* on heroin, but this was not previewed. If the diverse reports argued, as *TV Times* promised they would, that heroin was no more dangerous than alcohol, they should be whipped through the streets of Soho.

While BBC2 were setting out to squeeze yet more trills and gurgles from Hinge and Bracket, Channel 4 added to the gaiety of the nation with *Edinburgh Inside Out*. This was the sort of programme which the BBC would have entrusted to Richard Baker, Peter Ustinov or some complete nonentity specially selected for the occasion, and with tediously predictable results - Highlights of the Fringe: A Personal View.

Channel 4 entrusted the task to the Joys. There is a bearded musical Joey, a hunky extrovert Joey, a Joey with a seemingly homeless, collapsible face, and a Joey who can impersonate Kenneth Williams. Laurence Harvey, a geisha girl and any kind of psychopath you care to dream up. The Joys are as funny as Alcei Sayle and his friends were before the ossification process set in, but they also have an openness which should save them from that common fate of over-exposed telly-comics.

The Joey with the collapsible face specializes in an act which was used as a running gag throughout this simultaneously spoof and genuine tour. He impersonates a grouse-shooting blimp (or judge, or duke) whose language consists entirely of senile barks.

Edinburgh, like Wimbledon, is one of those events most pleasantly experienced in the comfort and privacy of one's own home: this was indeed the Best of the Fest. A clutch of first-class performances - Yo Yo Ma as well as cabaret, a handicapped theatre group called Graace as well as Hull Truck - were strung together in such a way that each shone with its own particular lustre. There was a blissful absence of contemporary dance, political theatre and Samuel Beckett; Marcel Marceau was sent up; rotten; the fossilized Berliner Ensemble sent themselves up; rotten; well, who else could they do? Too, Edinburgh's less privileged citizens were asked what they thought of it all, which was a salutary touch.

Michael Church

## YMSO presents new Bernstein

The British premiere of Leonard Bernstein's *Hall for Flute and orchestra* (Barbican, May 15) and *Charles Koechlin's* portrait of *Charles Chaplin* (St John's, February 20) are included in the 1984-85 season of the Young Musicians' Symphony Orchestra. The season begins and ends in the Festival Hall, with a Tchaikovsky programme including the relatively neglected *Manfred* Symphony (October 15) and Verdi's *Requiem* (May 26).

James Blair, the YMSO's artistic director, conducts eight of the season's 10 concerts, among them only the second performance in England of Henze's *Heliogabalus Imperator*, which was written to celebrate the eightieth anniversary of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra; this programme, in the Festival Hall on February 6, also includes Vovka Ashkenazy, son of Vladimir, playing Schumann's Piano Concerto. The whole season is sponsored by Unilever.

Nicholas Kenyon

## Theatre

### Too many promises left unfulfilled

Stepping Out  
Duke of York's

Leisure pursuits, in which the English take refuge from work and family life, are rarely put on public display, and Richard Harris seems to be carving himself a niche in this rich and unexamined field. In *Outside Edge* he took the lid off cricket. Now he moves on to the world of amateur dance groups, and the bare synopsis of *Stepping Out* makes you flick your lips.

Set in a north London church hall, it assembles a miscellaneous team of ladies and one man who exchange the daily chores of shopkeeping, office work and hospital routine for a weekly tap class under the cheery leadership of an ex-pro, assisted by a granite-faced rehearsal pianist. As the play follows their ups and downs in preparation for a grand charity concert, it promises the combined pleasures of *A Chorus Line* and *Stepping Out*, with a dash of the Farndale Townswomen's Guild's latest attraction.

Such comparisons have evidently also struck Mr Harris, who appears ditheringly uncertain which of them to pursue. In pursuit of character he delays a full hour before getting the story moving with the concert rehearsals.

In that time we have learnt precious little of interest about the group. Either they are stereotypes, like Maxine of the

rag-trade wit or the tactlessly snobbish Vera, or they guard secrets that are never disclosed. The taciturn Geoff, for instance, seems to be there simply to supply the piquant spectacle of one inhibited man among a pack of gregarious women.

As for plot, Mr Harris introduces quantities of material about their private lives which one expects to develop some bearing on the play's events. But no. The rough-tongued Sylvia suspects a Social Security girl of shopping her moonlighting lover to the authorities. She then drops the accusation as soon as the girl denies it. Maxine, the teacher, explodes during one session and then confesses to an unwanted pregnancy. That is the last we hear of it.

Of course the show goes on in the end, to roars of approval from Tuesday night's audience, when the group comes up with a capable bit of sub-Astaire: no hard thing for a professional company to do, even if they have been masquerading as amateurs.

The best passages of Julia McKenzie's production are the brief dance rehearsals, where comic character - such as it is - combines with disciplined snap. Barbara Foris, radiating charm like a searchlight, also handles the group with great authority. Otherwise the production is woefully slack, drawing unneeded attention to the contrived exits and queuing

entrances on lines like "I've had a day you wouldn't believe". The talents of an excellent company, including Barbara Young, Marcia Warren and the unsinkable Diane Langton, are decidedly under-exercised.

Irving Wardle

My Mother  
Blossomsbury

"Since his death in 1962", wrote the TLS, "[Georges] Bataille has been hustled up into France's pantheon of sacred monsters. Few of his works have been translated, apart from the pornographic *Story of the Eye* and critical essays on Sade, Blake, Emily Brontë and others entitled *Literature and Evil*. This week sees *Violent Silence* at the Blossomsbury, a Bataille-fest pairing this 12-hour drama with night-changing 'feasts' of Bataille-inspired film, dance and readings featuring Derek Jarman, an 'ex-dominatrix' called Terence Sellers, and the stripper-trumpeter Cosy Fanni Tutti (sic), formerly of Throbbing Gristle.

*Ma Mère* is an undramatic examination of a mother's debauchery of her son through sado-masochism, lesbianism, and 130 pages of prose whose preciousness, such as only the French could achieve, survives nakedly in Paul Buck's translation of this dramatization by the novelist Pierre Bourgoade.

From the actors it requires style and nerve; instead, there is Ann Pennington, as the mother, explaining that "You will never know what horrors I'm capable of" in the tones of a West End comedy by Hugh and Margaret Williams.

Presently the translation has original Pierre (Philip Dupuy) saying "I don't know if I'm really filthy, but I'm sure of one thing, I'm atrocious", as he disappears between the sheets with Hansi (Michele Wade), who appears in full riding habit and, like that tower at Pisa, "has a very pronounced leaning but doesn't want to admit it".

At which point, on the first night, the bed (a fine old brass example) collapsed, and with it the audience's and cast's capacity to keep a straight face. For a headier vision of Bataille's ecstasy and hell, unhampered by risible aphorisms, we must wait for the 'feasts' later this week.

Anthony Masters

## Dance

Royal Ballet  
Sadler's Wells

It was interesting to see David Bintley's *Metamorphosis* as the centre-piece of Tuesday night's programme by Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet, opening their short London season. At its premiere last April one was busy wondering how he would manage to transfer so philosophical a story to the stage and trying to take in the episodes as they arose. Now, with foreknowledge of the ballet's shape, one can concentrate more on detail and notice for instance how ingeniously the choreography switches the focus from one character to another.

As usual, Bintley has given his dancers strong roles to play. Especially Leanne Benjamin as the sister who, for all her adolescent gaucherie and hesitations, is really the family's chief prop; but hardly less so to Margaret Barbieri and Desmond Kelly as the parents who acquire new strength through their shattering experience. With Grahame Lusig as poor Gregor and Stephen Wicks as the blustering lodger, this dance drama is cast from strength.

Peter McGowan's score also lives up well to being heard again. It is essentially theatre music, made to measure for Bintley's needs and building a strong atmosphere to reinforce the action; but it is never only atmosphere. There is an intelligent use of musical forms to give the score a shape of its own, well brought out by the orchestra under Barry Wordsworth's direction.



Evelyn Hart in 5 Tangos, with Carl Myers

Classical ballets in contrasted moods came before and after this strong drama. Hans van Manen's *5 Tangos* is a work of dark moods shot with sinister glittering highlights. Although it is a pity that the Musicians' Union will not allow Astor Piazzolla's score to be played as he recorded it, with bandoneon and accompaniment, Cesar Gentili's arrangement for orchestra is the next best thing.

Evelyn Hart, the company's Canadian guest dancer, is at her best in the leading part, especially in the adagio, "Mort", with an admiring background of six men, where her predatory stalking gives a sharp attack to her movements. Carl Myers could maybe with advantage be a little more devilish in his solo, but he tackles it with zest.

It is apparent that Nureyev's production of the diversionary from *Raymonda* has not actually had his eye on it lately. Someone, for instance, has told

John Percival

## Concert

ECO/Ledger/Fraser  
Queen Elizabeth Hall

Donald Fraser, who conducted the first performance of his *Ancient Chinese Lyrics* on Tuesday, is, I gather, the man who successfully sued Thames Television because he gave them the idea for a series called *Rock Bottom* which they pinched and turned into *Rock Follies*. But it was an altogether unlitigious, classically oriented figure who was on view in his attractive song-cycle: these settings of Chinese lyrics use Arthur Waley's translations and weave five lyrics and an envoi together with two dances and a pair of preludes.

The sounds are lovely and the vocal writing, projected with suppleness, swooping lines by Teresa Cahill, is effective. The dominant sounds are tuned percussion and harp: delicate bells, swishing arpeggios, the flutter of raindrops at the beginning of "In the Courtyard", taken up by the broken, staccato vocal line.

Occasionally a string melody soared above the texture, and a cello solo emerged through a romantic haze. The predominant feeling was one of warm consonance, perhaps because the composer had reflected the importance of the number five in Chinese music by using fifths as a basic interval. And the result was a touch too easy for my taste: a pattern of well-imagined sounds which ended up as slightly under-characterized.

The rest of the concert was conducted by Philip Ledger, and started with an incredibly straight-faced account of Boccherini's comic Spanish scene *La musica notturna della strada di Madrid*. Far more interesting

was Teresa Cahill's singing of two Mozart arias; the great scene "Ah, to provide!" started quite magnificently, with the sighs and anguish of the first aria wonderfully distilled, but became more strained: tossing back her head cannot help the cleanness of attack on high notes. But serenely returned in the exquisite "Nehmt meinen Dank", where her voice swirled around the fine ECO woodwind.

Nicholas Kenyon

Barrie Rutter, top pig Napoleon, transfers tonight in *Animal Farm* from the Cottesloe to the Olivier. No actor, even he admits, could ask for very much more than he has recently enjoyed - long, well-praised runs in *The Oresteia*, *Guys and Dolls* and *The Rivals* and now constant admiration for his part as fearsome Stalinist dictator in Peter Hall's adaptation of Orwell's political satire.

Yet what appeals to Rutter is not so much the versatility of it all as the fact that he has fallen in love with a certain style of acting and that *Animal Farm* lets him explore it to the full. He calls it "the up-front primary coloured presentation of a text". He explains: "The *Oresteia* opened it up for me. It's really in my bloodstream now. It's the opposite of naturalistic drama with all its sly winks.

"You don't ask 'What would my pig be doing in this situation?' You just do it. And once it's happened you find there's a good excuse for it. All the knowledge and subtlety is there even if it's not played. You just present it. It's very ennobling, I feel ennobled."

A taste for this form came to him during his last two years with the Royal Shakespeare Company at Stratford, watching Alan Howard - who is, he maintains, the best exponent of them all, for his perfect physical coordination as well as his technique. "Two years with Alan Howard - that was my kindergarten." His next mentor was Tony Harrison, who translated *The Oresteia*, a play which kept Rutter on stage, in masks, for nearly five hours. "I was used to say 'We must go forward back to the Greeks'. Three years ago I didn't know what he was talking about. Now I do."

Barrie Rutter, who tonight transfers in *Animal Farm* (right) from the Cottesloe to the Olivier, is an actor who promises to thrive in the wide open spaces: interview by Caroline Moorehead

### The pleasures and pitfalls of porcine pyrotechnics

The switch from the Cottesloe to the Olivier tonight is more than a simple translation from one corner of the National Theatre to another. The stages are differently shaped and in the Olivier the audience is some five times bigger. "This must be better," says Rutter. "I've noticed how in the Cottesloe, when we pigs take over, the first three rows cover back. Let's face it: it's a bloody awful story. You don't come out singing 'songs'." He adds: "It deserves to be underplayed. There's a lot of unrewarded acting: we're in masks and on all fours most of the time. It's physically hell. Rehearsals and previews have



pleased him: "I like big spaces. For good or ill, I'm a big performer. Like Parkinson's Law, I expand to fill the space." Indeed Rutter has a voice to fill any space, thick, rich, resonant and consciously articulate: "I have a bee in my bonnet about the 'mini-ness' of television actors' voices. On my grave I want an epitaph: 'We heard him at the back'."

In the past of nearly every actor there seems to lurk a prophetic English teacher. Rutter's was at Greatfield High School, in Hull, a Mr Siddle, who said to him one day: "You've got the biggest gob in the school - use it." Rutter

objected that he had no time - what about football practice? Mr Siddle's vision prevailed and at 16 Rutter found himself playing the Mayor in *The Government Inspector*. "I just knew I loved it. Not how or why." What was more, acting was his, a long distance away from home life as eldest of five boys, all to different fathers. (His own worked on Hull's fish docks.) "I just went on from there. I said to myself that if I ever got out of my depth I would stop. But I'm still swimming."

To hear him tell it, the passage has not been excessively rough. After drama school in

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2	BICC	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Utd Lending	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	ICL	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Thorn EMI	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	GEC	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Avon Elec	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	Plassey	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Security Trg Sys	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Royal Ind	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11	Dunhill	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
12	COOSON	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13	BET OIL	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
14	Boots	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
15	De La Rue	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
16	IFR	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
17	Black (Pier)	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
18	Ash & Lacey	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
19	Copson (F)	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
20	PROPERTY	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
21	Stock Convention	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
22	Bainstow Eves	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
23	Land Securities	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
24	Memotiv	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
25	County F	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
26	Chorley	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
27	Bruton	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
28	Gr Portland	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
29	Esplan Trust	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
30	Slough Estates	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
31	OIL	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
32	LASMO	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
33	Atlantic Resources	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
34	Tricentral	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
35	Amoco	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
36	Br Peroleum	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
37	IC Gas	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
38	Burnish	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
39	British	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
40	Collins Oil	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Weekly Dividend  
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in Saturday's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL

## BRITISH FUNDS

1984 High Low Company Price Chg Div Yield % P/E

No.	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
1	British Fund	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	British Fund	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	British Fund	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	British Fund	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	British Fund	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	British Fund	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	British Fund	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	British Fund	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	British Fund	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	British Fund	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

## MEDIUMS

1984 High Low Company Price Chg Div Yield % P/E

No.	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
1	Mediums	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Mediums	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Mediums	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Mediums	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Mediums	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	Mediums	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Mediums	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	Mediums	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Mediums	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Mediums	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

## LONGS

1984 High Low Company Price Chg Div Yield % P/E

No.	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
1	Longs	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Longs	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Longs	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Longs	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Longs	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	Longs	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Longs	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	Longs	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Longs	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Longs	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

## BREWERIES

1984 High Low Company Price Chg Div Yield % P/E

No.	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
1	Breweries	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Breweries	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Breweries	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Breweries	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Breweries	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	Breweries	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Breweries	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	Breweries	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Breweries	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Breweries	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

## BANKS DISCOUNT HP

1984 High Low Company Price Chg Div Yield % P/E

No.	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
1	Banks	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Banks	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Banks	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Banks	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Banks	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	Banks	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Banks	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	Banks	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Banks	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Banks	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

## BUILDING AND ROADS

1984 High Low Company Price Chg Div Yield % P/E

No.	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
1	Building	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Building	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Building	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Building	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Building	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	Building	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Building	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	Building	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Building	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Building	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

## FINANCE AND LAND

1984 High Low Company Price Chg Div Yield % P/E

No.	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
1	Finance	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Finance	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Finance	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Finance	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Finance	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	Finance	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Finance	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	Finance	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Finance	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Finance	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

## FINANCIAL TRUSTS

1984 High Low Company Price Chg Div Yield % P/E

No.	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
1	Financial	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Financial	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Financial	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Financial	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Financial	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	Financial	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Financial	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	Financial	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Financial	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Financial	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

## FOODS

1984 High Low Company Price Chg Div Yield % P/E

No.	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
1	Food	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Food	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Food	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Food	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Food	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	Food	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Food	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	Food	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Food	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Food	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

## CHEMICALS, PLASTICS

1984 High Low Company Price Chg Div Yield % P/E

No.	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
1	Chemicals	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Chemicals	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Chemicals	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Chemicals	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Chemicals	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	Chemicals	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Chemicals	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	Chemicals	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Chemicals	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Chemicals	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

## CINEMAS AND TV

1984 High Low Company Price Chg Div Yield % P/E

No.	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yield	P/E
1	Cinema	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Cinema	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Cinema	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Cinema	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Cinema	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	Cinema	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Cinema	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	Cinema	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Cinema	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Cinema	12.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

## DRAPERY AND STORES

1984 High Low Company Price Chg Div Yield % P/E

28	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
29	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
30	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
31	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
32	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
33	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
34	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
35	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
36	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
37	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
38	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
39	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
40	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
41	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
42	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
43	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
44	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
45	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
46	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
47	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
48	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
49	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
50	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
51	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
52	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
53	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
54	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
55	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
56	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
57	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
58	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
59	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
60	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
61	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
62	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
63	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
64	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
65	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
66	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
67	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
68	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
69	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
70	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
71	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
72	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
73	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
74	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
75	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
76	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
77	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
78	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
79	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
80	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
81	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
82	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
83	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
84	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
85	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
86	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
87	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
88	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
89	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
90	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
91	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
92	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
93	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
94	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
95	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
96	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
97	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
98	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
99	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9
100	18%	170	-12	23	28	21.9



THE TIMES

## FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

## 13 years is a long time in Chinese politics

The Hang Seng index, that Mercurial proxy barometer of confidence in Hong Kong, has discounted a favourable agreement with China over the colony's future and actually dropped below the 1,000 mark in the last session before details of the agreement emerged yesterday. But if share prices do not bounce higher in the next few days, it will be a more bizarre than usual example of the Hong Kong market's eccentricities.

Allowing for the basic distaste of many inhabitants to being handed over to the People's Republic, the agreement is the best that could have been hoped for and much better than many sceptics had thought possible. While many of the details, particularly on land leases, shipping and freedom from exchange control, are in themselves encouraging, both to domestic and foreign investors, it is the very accumulation of detail that is most reassuring. An annex to be written into Chinese law even states that "the socialist system and socialist policies shall not be practised in the Hong Kong special Administrative region" for 50 years after the 1997 handover.

The mass of print on preserving financial, legal and money market systems, might help to convince cynics that the Chinese Government intends to maintain Hong Kong as an international capitalist enclave, and that it has a realistic appreciation of what exactly is involved in achieving that objective. It will not persuade them that what happens after 1997 will necessarily be congenial, but it removes much uncertainty about the next 13 years. That is what really matters to business confidence and investment, which has periodically been undermined in the past two years by fears of what might come about in the nearer term.

Without such fears the economic prospects and background look strong. Sir John Brembridge, the colony's financial secretary, recently raised his forecast of output growth this year from 6 to 8 per cent. This revision was based on dramatic export growth of 42 per cent in the first eight months of this year in a currency tied to the strong US dollar. Investment from abroad has been healthy as Japanese and American companies seek an entry into China.

Domestic investment, other than in property, is also recovering. And, as Mr David Davies of Hong Kong Land was quick to spot, the protection of long leases and further renewals up to 2047 will help stabilize the property market.

The less sanguine will emphasize that confidence remains crucial and will hang on political news from China. Under the US dollar tie an exodus of capital pushes up interest rates, further threatening capital values and, as when the US dollar and US interest rates turn down in earnest, there might be fewer correctives against a flight of capital and talent.

## The second coming of David Montagu

That moment towards the end of July when the shares of Charterhouse J. Rothschild touched 75p may prove to have been an historic turning point in the fortunes of Mr Jacob Rothschild. Yesterday the share price climbed another 3p to 90p in response to half-year profits, an interim dividend of 1.5p and a forecast of a total for 1984 of 4.5p. The pretax profit is £30m against a comparable £20m at this stage last year.

These are the first figures from Charterhouse J. Rothschild since it was formed last winter, and since it tried and failed to merge the new group with Hambro Life Assurance this summer.

The legacy of that failure, which cost £2.3 million, is 24.9 per cent in Hambro

Life's equity, the presence on the CIR board of the redoubtable Mr Mark Weinberg and his shrewd colleague, Mr Sydney Lipworth, and a City audience left wondering if Mr Rothschild had lost his deal-making touch.

His characteristic response has been to try harder. Realized gains of £28.7m are the backbone of the latest results. CIR has pressed on with selling its collection of industrial interests, with another £66m, at book values, remaining to be realized.

The declared intention is to turn CIR into an international investment banking and investment management group. To this end a Hong Kong office has been opened and a Pacific fund launched.

These, however, are in the nature of housekeeping chores compared with the principal task of restructuring the board. Into the chief executive's chair originally designed for Mr Weinberg slides Mr David Montagu. At his right hand will be Mr Merrill Halpern, an American whose experience of Wall Street should be invaluable in the soon-to-be-liberated London stock market. He will head the international investment banking division.

Mr Montagu's appointment should mark the end of an odyssey which began 11 years ago when he sold Samuel Montagu, the family merchant bank, to Midland Bank for £140m. After restless spells at Orion Bank and Merrill Lynch, he joined Mr Rothschild in 1981 and has now been given the key job of blending a talented but diverse group of individuals into an efficient and aggressive team. Mr Montagu is not a man who likes playing second fiddle but as leader of such an orchestra under Jacob's baton, he has his work cut out.

There will be casualties along the way. Indeed, one was announced in yesterday's list of changes: Mr Kenneth Thompson, CIR's finance director, will be leaving to pursue other interests.

## Day of decision for Carless Capel

Today is the first closing date for the £100m takeover bid by Carless Capel for Premier Consolidated. When acceptances are totted up at 3.30, Carless is likely to find that its one-for-three share offer has been rejected, possibly by a large majority.

It has been a curious little saga from the beginning, with Carless' respected chairman, Mr John Leonard, acting quite out of character. He sprang a hostile bid on a company which is by no means the most obvious fit for his own, and then got his knuckles rapped by the Takeover Panel for an incautious remark to a newspaper that Carless's terms of his offer would not be raised. There has been sniping from both sides, with Mr Roland Shaw, Premier's chairman, having the better of the argument (and the wisecracks) to date.

The chief casualty so far has been Carless' own share price, since the offer was announced it has slipped from 220p to 196p. Despite a healthy profit forecast, the market has blanched at the thought of the avalanche of new Carless paper a merger would bring. Doubts whether Carless's onshore find at Horderns is all it is cracked up to be have been successfully fanned by Mr Shaw and his advisers at Schroders.

The question now is whether Mr Leonard throws in his hand or comes back with a better offer. Not withstanding Mr Shaw's vigorous defence, Premier is vulnerable at, or not much above, the present price, provided the terms are more attractive than Carless's all-paper offer. Not is there any doubt that a more friendly bid would go down much better. Is a three-way tie up between Carless, Premier and Goal no more than a gleam in the various parties' eyes.

## IMF grants \$1.4bn standby loan to Buenos Aires

From Sarah Hogg and Bailey Morris, Washington

The Argentine Government yesterday published its long-fought-over memorandum of agreement on economic policy with the International Monetary Fund.

This formal agreement, if endorsed by the IMF's executive board, will permit Argentina to draw up to \$1.43 billion under a standby arrangement with the fund, although that is still conditional on agreement with Argentina's commercial bankers.

The Government must meet interest arrears of \$900m by the weekend if the US banks are not to be forced to declare their loans non-performing.

In all, Argentina is looking for about \$5 billion in immediate new money, of which the IMF loan would provide about a third. Neither the commercial banks nor the Paris Club (of Government creditors) has yet reached agreement with Buenos Aires, but the IMF memorandum is a significant step forward.

The memorandum provides for: A plan aimed at progressively reducing inflation to 300 per cent in the year ending next September, and an annual rate

of 150 per cent during the last quarter of 1985, compared with a rate of about 650 per cent now.

Devaluation of the exchange rate designed "at a minimum" to adjust for the difference between domestic and international prices. This is to permit stabilization of the current account deficit, including rising interest payments on international debt, at around \$2.2 billion.

World Bank and IMF officials said the debt problem had moved into a third critical stage in which 70 per cent of the world's outstanding debt will fall due between now and 1989. As a result of agreements with Mexico, Venezuela and Argentina, a workable mechanism for managing outstanding

"Simplification" of the foreign exchange and trade system. The Government undertakes not to impose or intensify any restriction on payments or transfers for current international transactions.

A schedule for the phased elimination of external payments arrears not subject to refinancing by the banks.

A sustained reduction in the rate of growth of credit and money, with limits on the

deficits of the central bank and the non-financial public sector. The plan is aimed at reducing the cash deficit of the non-financial public sector to 8.1 per cent of gdp in 1984 as a whole, and to 5.4 per cent in 1985.

That compares with a peak of 16.5 per cent during the fourth quarter of 1983. In order to restrain public spending, the Government has agreed to stop holding public sector prices below the general level of inflation.

However, on the vexed question of wages, the Government is still planning monthly wage adjustments for the public and private sectors, with catch-up increases "from time to time" to provide a measure of protection for real wages. It is thought that the Government will try to put something of a check on wages by delaying catch-up increases, but there is no formal commitment to do so.

The Argentine Government has also won through with its insistence that adjustment policies should not precipitate recession. Its financial programme "has provided for moderate growth of output next year".

## Debt crisis 'far from over'

International banking officials at the IMF's annual meeting said yesterday that the world debt crisis is by no means over, even though it has moved into a more manageable stage as a result of newly negotiated agreements with the three biggest debtor nations.

World Bank and IMF officials said the debt problem had moved into a third critical stage in which 70 per cent of the world's outstanding debt will fall due between now and 1989.

As a result of agreements with Mexico, Venezuela and Argentina, a workable mechanism for managing outstanding

debt has been achieved, they said.

But the situation could worsen quickly if the following conditions are not met over the next crucial year and beyond: sustained recovery in the industrialized nations; open world trading markets to allow continued growth in Third World exports; an increase in investment flows to developing countries projected at 7 per cent a year.

Open world trading markets are a critical component of success in managing the problem according to the heads of the bank, the IMF and key industrialized nations.

## Trafalgar seeks Turkish deal

By Jonathan Davis, Business Correspondent

Trafalgar House is joining a high-level trade mission to Turkey next week in the hope of clinching a \$200m (£162m) contract to build a second bridge across the Bosphorus near Istanbul.

The move comes as Trafalgar House and other members of the Euroroute consortium are preparing for a last-ditch attempt to persuade the Government of the merits of their grand plans for a £4,000m combined bridge and tunnel link across the English Channel.

Mr John Fletcher, the Trafalgar House director who was involved in the negotiations to take over the Scott Lithgow yard on Clydeside earlier this year, is joining the mission to Turkey which leaves on



Sir Nigel Brookes: pushing for Channel scheme

October 1. It will be headed by the Duke of Kent. Trafalgar House's Cleveland Bridge subsidiary built the first Bosphorus bridge, completed in 1973.

## Black &amp; Decker to move

By Judith Huntley, Commercial Property Correspondent

Black & Decker, the power tool company, is moving its headquarters from Maidenhead, Berkshire, to the 60,000 sq ft Westpoint Centre, in neighbouring Slough early next year.

Black & Decker has been in Maidenhead for 22 years, but says planning restrictions there mean - that the company's planned expansion cannot be catered for. It is taking over the lease on Westpoint Centre from Rankin Hovis McDougall for a figure believed to be about £1m a year.

The company intends selling its headquarters in Maidenhead and will use the proceeds to finance a new 120,000 sq ft site it is buying from Northampton Development Corporation.

Black & Decker will not say how much it hopes to raise from the sale of the Maidenhead building, which is still being valued. The Northampton development will be an £8m investment, employing 50 people initially.

Four companies are vying for a 10 acre site on the edge of Taunton town centre in Somerset, which has permission for 110,000 sq ft of retail warehousing. Taunton Deane Council has asked Harris Queensway with MFI, Cynogre Bicknell, B & Q Retail and Rush & Tompkins Developments to submit schemes for the site, near the M5 motorway.

The council hopes to select a developer before Christmas. The chartered surveyors Hillier Parker is advising the council but will not put a figure on the site.

MFI is taking 50,000 sq ft of space in a £7m shopping development in Scunthorpe's enterprise zone, South Humber-side.

Hillards, the supermarket chain is taking 56,000 sq ft and Madeley's, the do-it-yourself group, will have 35,000 sq ft.

## Greenfields pays £3.74m for leisure shops chain

By Alison Eadie

Greenfields Leisure, the camping and sports goods chain, is spending a total of £3.74m to buy BCL Holdings, the holding company for Blacks Camping and Leisure.

Greenfields will issue 7.85 million shares at 47p and add £50,000 in cash. The name of the new group will be Greenfields Blacks. Greenfields' shares rose 2p to 49p.

Greenfields has 69 retail outlets and BCL has 29, all selling camping and outdoor recreations equipment. The enlarged chain will have greater buying power and benefit from shared distribution and administration, according to Mr Murdoch Morrison, the chairman.

## Zanussi set for takeover

Foreign creditors of Zanussi, the ailing Italian home appliance producer, are expected to give the final go-ahead to a takeover plan by Electrolux of Sweden, a Zanussi official said yesterday.

Banking sources have confirmed that a committee of foreign bank creditors has accepted in principle a proposal from the Swedish group to pay back 90 per cent of Zanussi's dollar debts.

The 14 foreign banks represented by the committee, which are owed about \$30m, are expected to express their views on the plan in the next few days.

Italian banking sources in Rome said on Tuesday that creditor banks were expected soon to approve the deal. Under this, their loans will be paid back in two instalments.

Electrolux has offered to buy a 49 per cent stake in Zanussi as a first step to taking complete control.

Under Electrolux's offer to the foreign banks, 70 per cent of the debts would be repaid immediately and the remainder after seven years, but without interest.

end of the year and negotiations are being held with unions. Some staff will be offered other jobs within Shell, but there will be redundancies.

The refinery has been particularly hard hit by the falling demand for home-heating oil.

Shell UK's director of manufacturing, supply and trading, Mr Owen Head, said yesterday: "Oil refining and marketing has been in a poor state for several years now and Shell UK is losing money on this part of its business. With two main refineries, on the Mersey and on the Thames, we will be better geared to serve a smaller and changing national market".

The refinery will close at the

## Pound gains 90 points

Selling of the dollar by a number of central banks and speculation that Citicorp was to match Morgan Guaranty's ½ point prime rate cut, sent the dollar lower in New York, after trading strongly in Europe.

Sterling, which opened at \$1.2265 in London, and traded below 1.23 for most of the day, recovered by 1.5 cents by midday in New York. As a result, the London close was \$1.2415, up 0.09 cents on the previous close. Sterling was slightly weaker against the European currencies and the Sterling Exchange Rate Index slipped 0.1 points to 76.4.

The dollar also fell back against the Deutsche mark. The Bundesbank admitted only \$55m of the intervention against the dollar - of a reported total of \$200m to \$300m - suggesting a concerted central bank move against the US currency. The dollar dropped five pence from its New York opening of DM3.0850.

In London, share prices overcame currency uncertainties. The FT-SE-100 index rose by 14.3 points to 1,355.5. This is only six points below the index's record level of 1,414.6.

STOCK EXCHANGES	
FT-SE 100 Index:	1355.5 up 14.3 (high: 1385.5; low: 1327.1)
FT index:	889.0 down 1.0
FT 1000:	80.54 up 0.17
FT All Share:	\$22.76 up 3.79
Bargains:	17,600
Dataseam USM Leaders:	Index: 102.51 up 0.01
New York Dow Jones Industrial:	Average (latest): 1213.33 up 6.18
Tokyo Nikkei Dow Jones Index:	10,620.06 up 15.22
Hong Kong Hang Seng Index:	999.79 down 10.44

CURRENCIES	
LONDON CLOSE	
Sterling:	76.4 up 0.1 (range 76.5-76.2)
\$1.2425 up 90pts	
DM 3.7765 up down 0.01	
FF 11.5972 down 0.0403	
Yen 304.47 up 1.15	
Index 142.4 up 0.4	
DM 3.0400 down 0.0322	
NEW YORK LATEST	
Sterling \$1.2415	
Dollar DM 2.0355	
INTERNATIONAL	
ECU £0.5002	
SDR £0.80422	

INTEREST RATES	
Domestic rates:	
Bank base rates:	10 1/2
Finance houses base rate:	11 1/2
Discount market loans week fixed:	10 1/2
3 month interbank 10 1/2 - 10 3/4	
Euro-currency rates:	
3 month dollar 11 1/2 - 11 3/4	
3 month DM 5 1/2 - 5 3/4	
3 month FF 11 1/2 - 11 3/4	
US rates:	
Bank prime rate:	13.00 - 12.75
Fed funds 9 1/2	
Treasury long bond 10 1/2 - 10 1/4	
ECG Fixed Rate Sterling Export:	
Finance Scheme IV Average:	
reference rate for interim period:	
August 8 to September 4, inclusive:	
10.866 per cent.	

GOLD	
London fixed (per ounce):	
ask \$345.75 pm \$346.10	
bid \$347.00 - 347.50 (\$279.75 - 280.25)	
New York (latest):	\$346.25
Kruggerand (per unit):	\$357.50 - 359.00 (\$288.25 - 289.25)
Sovereigns (new):	\$81.50 - 82.50 (\$66.00 - 66.75)
*Excludes VAT	

## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Opec output increase ruled out

The market monitoring committee of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries decided yesterday against any increase in oil output.

Dr Mans Said al-Otaibi, the United Arab Emirates Oil Minister, told reporters after the four-nation committee's meeting in Vienna that it had also agreed there was no need for an emergency full meeting of OPEC's 13 members.

"We decided to maintain the ceiling at its present level of 17.5 million barrels per day together with maintaining the present national quotas as they are," he said.

DRG, the paper and packaging group, raised its pretax profits to £10.6m from £9.5m in the six months to June. The interim dividend was unchanged at 3p. *Tempsa*, page 21

● RMC GROUP, the ready-mixed concrete company, increased pretax profits for the six months to June 30 to £31.7m up from £26.3m. Turnover rose from £490.9m to £549.9m. The interim dividend is 4.4p against 4.1p last time. *Tempsa*, page 21

● FOSCO MINSEP, the specialty chemicals group, has more than doubled pretax profits for the six months to June 30 to £16.9m against £8.1m. Turnover also increased to £226.3m up from £184.2m. The interim dividend of 2.8p is up from 2.65p last time. *Tempsa*, page 21

## Ferguson Lacey quits post

By Richard Thomson

Mr Graham Ferguson Lacey, the financier, has resigned as chairman of John Finlan after five months in the post. His investment company in Bermuda, AAmadeus, has sold all but 10 per cent of its majority shareholding in the company.

The move comes after the recent failure of Finlan's bid to take over Lincroft Kilgour, the cash-rich textiles company. But Mr Ferguson Lacey denied that his departure had anything to do with the bid which, he said, had been very successful for Finlan.

The Lincroft bid was de-

signed to raise cash and although Finlan has not gained as much as it would have if the bid was successful, it has still made a large profit," he added.

Finlan made a profit of £1.288m on the sale of its Lincroft shares to Cedeo Holdings.

Mr Ferguson Lacey said he resigned because he did not have time to do justice to the job.

Aamadeus has privately placed 1.6 million Finlan shares in a deal worth £1.2m with a number of Saudi Arabian investors.

## Petrol battle mounts with prices

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

Continued pressure on profits in the petrol market yesterday resulted in confirmation of the second big price rise within a week, the unveiling of the biggest promotional pence yet to reach the forecourts, and the closure of the Shell refinery on Teesside with the possible loss of up to 600 jobs.

The big oil companies have now followed the lead set by Esso on Monday and raised prices to just under 190p a gallon for four star BP, which led last week's round of increases which took prices up to more than 186p, is the only company not to officially announce a new rise, but is likely to do so today.

With all prices now around

190p - the companies still say a price nearer 195p is needed to make up for losses caused by the rise of the dollar against sterling - the emphasis on the forecast is now likely to return to marketing schemes and games with large cash prizes.

Mobil, which based its last highly successful promotion on the board game Scrabble, has returned to the field with a game based on Monopoly. A total prize fund of £5m has been set up with cash prizes of up to £25,000 available as well as cars such as Jaguars and Rolls-Royces.

Mobil's marketing director, Mr Ron Hughes, said yesterday: "Our results indicate that

a top quality game stimulates much more interest than the traditional promotions."

The oil companies say that the overall cost of a promotion such as Mobil's is equal to a price cut of less than 1/2p a gallon. A price differential of nearer 5p is required before motorists switch brands on price difference only.

However, the harsher facts behind the present glut of petrol and pressure on price margins have resulted in Shell announcing the closure of its Teesside refinery. Shell employs 260 people there, and 350 more are employed by maintenance contractors.

The refinery will close at the



## Interim Results to 30th June 1984

Financial Highlights			
	6 months to 30.6.84	6 months to 30.6.83	Year to 31.12.83
	£m	£m	£m
Turnover	549.9	490.9	1048.5
Operating Profit			
United Kingdom	22.8	19.5	47.0
West Germany	5.7	4.3	18.1
Other countries	5.5	5.3	9.0
	34.0	29.1	74.1
Related companies	1.7	0.7	3.4
Profit before taxation	31.7	26.5	71.6
Earnings per share	16.6p	13.8p	39.5p

Dividend The Directors have decided to declare an increased interim dividend of 4.4p per share (1983 4.1p per share) payable on 30 November 1984 to shareholders on the Register at the close of business on 30 October 1984.

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## COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

## City's developing revolution

By Judith Huntley

London's financial centre is undergoing a revolution. Will the property world be able to rise to all the new challenges?

The City of London's financial services are undergoing a revolution with mergers and disposals the order of the day. But will the property industry be able to respond to the new challenges which the City is throwing down?

Merchant banks, stock-brokers and accountants involved in the financial life of the City, are on the move. But no one in the property world knows quite where they are going.

The City's office market is showing every sign of an upturn. Only top quality buildings are letting, and often only at a price which is a distinct corporate image.

The desire for a glossy image is in large part due to increased foreign competition as firms are forced to compete harder with markets like New York for business.

Quality office space alone is not enough to convince customers of the value of a company's services. But there is no doubt that modern office space with the technology needed to keep abreast of the money markets is part of the corporate plan.

The expansion in banking, allied with expected mergers in accountancy, such as the recently announced marriage between Price Waterhouse and Deloitte Haskins & Sells, will increase demand for larger offices. Deloitte is rumoured to be taking Land Securities' Ludgate Hill scheme.

Most property companies have not yet had to grapple with the development, planning, site assembly and funding of office blocks of 100,000 sq ft or more.

There are notable exceptions. Godfrey Bradman, Stuart Lipton and the Beckwith Brothers have been in the forefront in putting together and financing

office developments on a large scale. But others, including the financial institutions, will have to come up with unusual forms of funding to cater for the kind of property demands that could be on the way.

At least that is the view of Mr. Don Newall, senior partner in Hillier Parker's City office. He believes there are several important factors at work in the financial community which will pose challenging questions for property developers, investors and planners alike.

He foresees a great deal of potential for expansion within the banking world, which has been suppressed by its need to turn its attention elsewhere to more pressing problems such as Third World debt. But the banks, he believes, are now on the move again.

Citibank has for some time been looking for a large space, and it could be joined by the Royal Bank of Canada, which is reconsidering its property requirements. The Royal Bank will not say how much space it wants or whether the bulk of it will be in the City.

But recent lettings show that the merchant banking arms of Britain's biggest clearing banks are not being sluggish about taking large office buildings offering them quality space with an appropriate corporate image.

Samuel Montagu, for example, is taking the whole of the 240,000 sq ft Billingsgate development, including the former Market Building itself, at a rent of £28 a sq ft. That figure is unlikely to be achieved on other developments in the area, but it demonstrates that rent is no deterrent if a company finds the right offices in the right place.

Mr. Newall sees a revival in the merchant banking sector and argues that its reorganization needs and those of the clearing banks make it easier for companies to move from the traditional prime spots such as Lombard Street and Gracechurch Street to buildings that can easily accommodate computer and electronic installations and that offer large floor areas for dealing rooms.

He sees flexibility as the



Guardian Royal Exchange Assurance has signed up Lloyds Bank and American Express as tenants in its 16,140 sq ft office development at 4-5 Union Terrace, Aberdeen, close to the city's retail area.

Lloyds already occupies the ground floor and basement but has now taken 3,340 sq ft at an initial rent of £22,000 a year on a 25-year lease with five-yearly reviews.

American Express has taken 3,400 sq ft for 24 years at a rent of £21,250 a year.

Ove Arup & Partners also occupies the building, paying £5.75 a sq ft for its 2,600 sq ft of space. The estate agents company Drivers Jonas is acting as letting agent.

crucial factor for developers. Financial companies want space in their offices that can be changed over a weekend, but they also demand a high standard of fittings. If larger buildings are in demand, planners will also have to be more flexible.

Conservation is in fashion in the City, although permission has been given for several big developments such as that planned in Ropemaker Street by London & Edinburgh Trust.

The opportunities for large developments are limited, and identifying where more such offices could go will be a feat for those in the property industry. The decision over Mr. Peter Palumbo's high rise development at Mansion House Square will be crucial.

Mr. Newall sees potential along the riverfront on the north side, possibly extending

into the Fleet Street area, which is rapidly ceasing to be the home of the newspaper and printing industries. The Lincoln's Inn area could also see pressures for redevelopment as central, prime sites in the City become scarcer.

He argues that there may be a case for resurrecting the high rise office block if the planners could be persuaded to increase plot ratios, but this looks a long way off. Certainly high rise offices do not seem to deter some tenants.

Wates Developments, now transformed into the public company Wates City Properties, has already let about 30 per cent of its City Tower at Basinghall Street, close to London Wall, for rents of £30 a sq ft. The upper floors look likely to go at £32 a sq ft, and that is for refurbished space.

Wates City is also waiting for planning permission from the Greater London Council for its plans to redevelop 80 Cheapside with 154,520 sq ft of offices and some shops.

One difficulty for property developers trying to accommodate the needs of expanding financial concerns or those consolidating their operations is how to fund such a scheme. The answer might lie in treating a property development in the same way as financing a company, as was the approach at Finsbury Avenue with Roehampton. Alternatively, consortium funding might be the answer.

There are few funds able to contemplate investing £50m to £100m in one project. But it seems likely that some of the biggest pension funds and insurance companies will themselves undertake the direct development of large offices.

The City of London office market has seen well over 600,000 sq ft let in the past three to four months and there are very few large buildings still on the market.

Developments like St Martins Property Corporation's 1 million sq ft London Bridge City south of the river, along with the proposed redevelopment of Liverpool Street station with 1 million sq ft and Norwich Union's 100,000 sq ft at Fenchurch Street station, could be coming available at the right moment.

The local council was opposed to the superstore as it wanted to see a town centre site in Folkestone developed with such a store but was overruled by the planning inspector.

● The British Petroleum Pension Trust has paid Eagle Star Properties £17.5m for the freehold of Berger House, Berkeley Square, Mayfair. The 65,000 sq ft building is let to paint company Berger Jenson & Nicholson on a 24-year lease at an initial rent of £750,000 pa. The next rent review is due in June 1985. Eagle Star, through Anthony Brown Stewart, negotiated the surrender of Berger's long lease for £11m at the end of last year. Debenham Tewson & Chinnocks acted for BP Pension Trust.

● Capital & Counties has bought the 250,000 sq ft Weston Favell Centre in Northampton from the Northampton Development Corporation for £6m. The sale is part of several new town asset disposals currently under way.

CapCo plans to improve the centre, which has a 162,000 sq ft Tesco store as its main tenant. The centre was built by the corporation in 1974.

Mr. Ian Northen, CapCo's assistant managing director, says the company wants to improve the centre in three ways. It will physically alter its layout and may put a small-scale food court in the malls. It would like to improve the tenant mix and is holding talks with Tesco on plans for the store which the supermarket operator wants to upgrade. CapCo also wants to alter the management of the centre. The next rent reviews at the centre are due in 1988.

CapCo is shortly to unveil its new designs for the 1 million sq ft retail, leisure and parking development it plans on an 80-acre site close to the M25 at Thurrock, Essex. The project has yet to receive the blessing of the planners. The scheme may go to a public inquiry along with a rival proposal by Town & City for a £75m development just up the road.

● Tesco has acquired a five-acre site on the edge of Folkestone, Kent, from a local landowner and intends to build a 50,000 sq ft store there. This fits neatly with Tesco's avowed intent not to develop any more high street stores.

It has taken Tesco nearly a year to win planning consent for the Folkestone store. The group has taken a 125-year lease on the site and is paying ground rent geared to income, but the company declined to say how much it paid for the site.

The local council was opposed to the superstore as it wanted to see a town centre site in Folkestone developed with such a store but was overruled by the planning inspector.

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## Notice to Existing and Prospective Borrowers.

National & Provincial Building Society hereby gives notice that the rates of interest applicable to existing annual mortgage accounts and outstanding offers of advance are to be increased by 0.25% with effect from 1st October 1984.

Where a mortgage deed specifies a period of notice before an increase in the rate of interest applicable to it is effective, such period will commence on 1st October 1984.

Where any period of notice given to effect an increase in the rate of interest applicable has not yet expired this increase shall be in addition to that previously notified.

For the purposes of this notice an outstanding offer of advance means an offer of advance or further advance dated prior to 29th September 1984.

The new rate of interest and revised payment figure applicable to an existing mortgage and all outstanding offers completed on or before 29th September 1984 will be notified in each borrower's annual statement of account which will be sent during January 1985.

Where an outstanding offer of advance has not been taken up before 29th September 1984 the new rate of interest and revised repayment figure will be quoted in the statement sent to each borrower after completion.

Prospective borrowers requiring information relating to the effect of this notice prior to completion should contact the branch of the Society which issued the offer of advance or the Society's Administration Centre.

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Authorized Unit Trusts			Authorized Units & Insurance Funds			Insurance Bonds and Funds		
Unit Name	Offer Price	Old Offer Price	Unit Name	Offer Price	Old Offer Price	Unit Name	Offer Price	Old Offer Price
1. General Fund Management Ltd.	100.00	100.00	1. General Fund Management Ltd.	100.00	100.00	1. General Fund Management Ltd.	100.00	100.00
2. General Fund Management Ltd.	100.00	100.00	2. General Fund Management Ltd.	100.00	100.00	2. General Fund Management Ltd.	100.00	100.00
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# Hughes has richly profitable night

By Stuart Jones  
Football Correspondent

Manchester United.....4  
Burnley.....0

Manchester United have clearly learnt from last season's embarrassing defeat by Burnley. They were back to their championship ambitions last season that they were knocked out of both domestic competitions by third division opposition. Oxford and Bournemouth. Last night, in the first leg of their second round Milk Cup tie at Old Trafford they were merciless against representatives from the same lowly league.

The absence of Moran and Strachan, who were both injured, and Olsen, who was on international duty with Denmark, proved to be inconsequential. The cobblers were brushed away from Graham and Mullen, more accustomed to working among the reserves, and the dust sheets were lifted from Carlton, a promising 19-year-old.

United's superiority was to be expected and it became evident with a goal in the second minute. Robson intercepted Hutchinson's wayward pass in the centre circle and set off, brushing with the usual aggression and purpose. As he reached the penalty area, he released a dipping left-footed drive, reminiscent of Bobby Charlton.

After the initial explosion, United were content to keep their attacking flames merely flickering. They were granted as much room in midfield that they had time to consider carefully each design. There was no need for intricacy or risk until Hughes and a strangely apathetic Whiteside became involved. Practice with a competitive edge.

Hughes increased their lead after 17 minutes, with a goal of similar quality. After Abbotson had gained possession out on the left and rolled the ball gently into his path, the Welsh international stroled forwards before curling a shot round and over Burnley's goalkeeper from some 25 yards.

There was nothing to be experienced (half of their side has been in the game for a decade) and they raised the odd response. The most notable was provided by Hutchinson, their captain and once an employee across the city of Manchester. Bailey was forced to tip his spectacular long range attempt over the bar.

But after Biggins had shaken United's complacency, and the bar, they went further ahead just before the hour. An arrogant backheel from Muhren and a low cross from Moss allowed Hughes to send in White-side's replacement for the second half to add his second.

Hughes claimed his third in the 75th minute with a ferocious four-man move.

MANCHESTER UNITED: S. Bailey, M. Doherty, A. Abbotson, W. Garton, G. Hagg, B. Muhren, A. Mullen, M. Hughes, N. Whiteside, G. Strachan, R. Houghton, D. Scott, P. Houghton, M. Pinner, V. O'Brien, K. Hill, N. Greenwood, S. Walters, S. Taylor, T. Hutchinson, R. Evans, M. Pinner (Kearney).

BURNLEY: R. Houghton, D. Scott, P. Houghton, M. Pinner, V. O'Brien, K. Hill, N. Greenwood, S. Walters, S. Taylor, T. Hutchinson, R. Evans, M. Pinner (Kearney).

Referee: M. Pinner (Kearney).

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# Damaged Spurs regain sharpness

Oswaldo Ardiles gave Tottenham Hotspur another scare yesterday when he hobbled off after 60 minutes of his comeback game. But the injury turned out to be a twisted right ankle which is unlikely to disrupt his return to the first team.

Ardiles and Glenn Hoddle, also recovering from a long-term injury, played in a Tottenham XI against the club's South-East Counties under-18 side at Barclays Bank sports ground in West London. Both were pleased with the way they stood up to the test.

However, Ardiles, who missed most of last season with a cracked shin and underwent a cartilage operation last month, had a warning for Tottenham fans.

He said: "If I pick up another serious injury it would almost certainly finish my career. At my age I would definitely have to consider giving up the game. At the moment I feel confident and I am running all right. It is just a question of getting match-fit."

Hoddle, out with Achilles tendon trouble, said: "It is the worst injury I have ever had. I worried at the time whether I would be able to come back and to be honest I still wonder now whether I will be the same. It's a bit stiff. But generally I feel terrific."

The England midfielder played his return in the reserves at Reading on Saturday. Yesterday he scored the first and made the second in Tottenham's 5-0 win.

He added: "I was quite pleased with how things went. I took a whack on the heel and it is a bit stiff. But generally I feel terrific."

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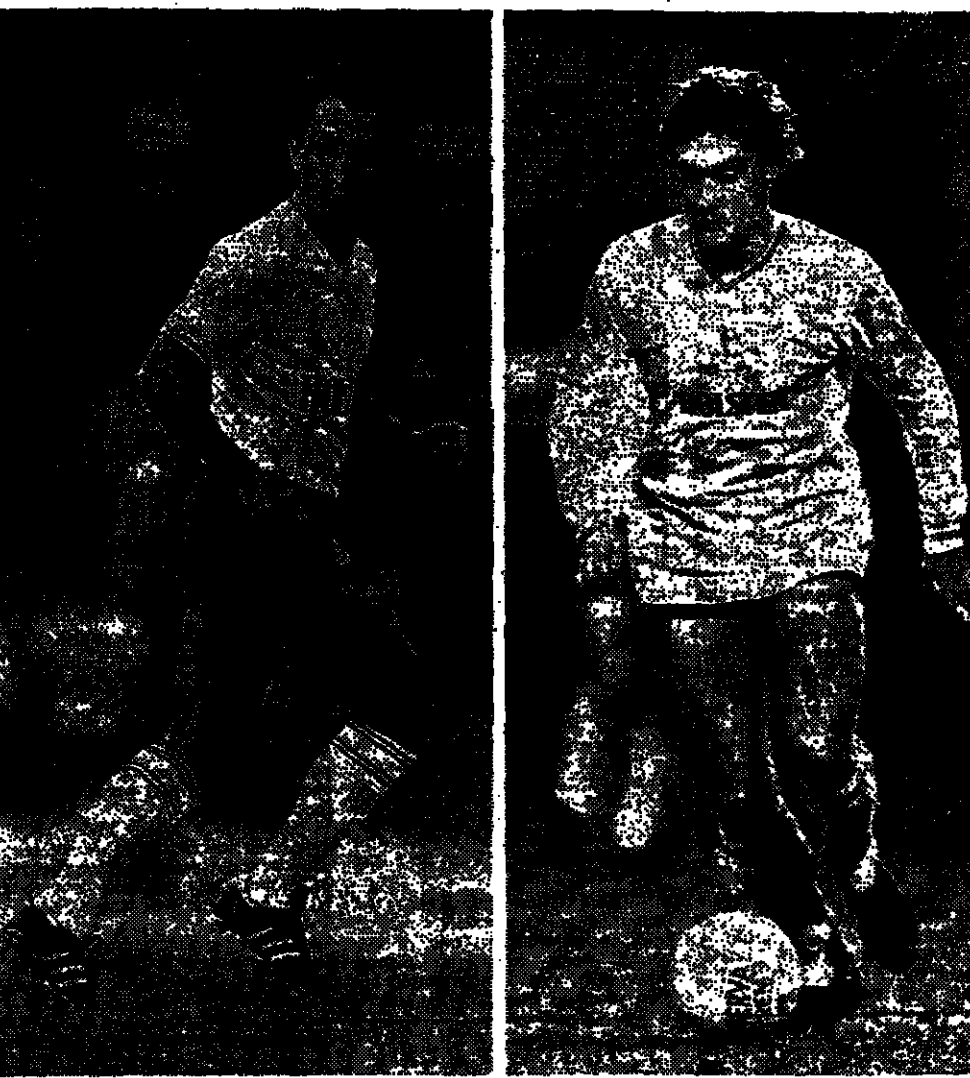
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Up and running: Ardiles (left) and Hoddle, on course for a return to the first team

telling Peter Shreeves that they are still on course to recovery."

Norwich City are desperately seeking a goalkeeper on loan for Saturday's visit to Nottingham Forest. Chris Woods, who has not missed a match for over three years, is doubtful with knee trouble, and the club have no experience reserve.

Woods, troubled by the injury for some time, aggravated it during Tuesday's Milk Cup tie at Preston where he was handicapped as the home side scored two late goals to earn a 3-3 draw.

Asa Hartford, the former Scotland midfielder, is to start training with Norwich today. Hartford, 33, is a free agent after being released by Fort Lauderdale.

Nigel Worthington, the Sheffield Wednesday full back, is out of Saturday's match at Liverpool. He suffered a torn groin muscle during the Milk Cup win over Huddersfield on Tuesday and could be out of action for a fortnight.

Lee Chapman, who played almost the whole game suffering from concussion and had four stitches in a head wound, is also expected to be fit, while Gary Shelton is due to return after hamstring trouble.

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# RUGBY LEAGUE Welsh side capable of extending England

By Keith Mackillo

When David Watkins, the team manager, set about choosing a Wales team to play England at Highbury on October 14, he found a host of difficulties. Retirement robbed him of Fenwick, David and Ringo, three seasoned former internationals. In addition, injuries or disputes with clubs denied him Brynnoir, Williams, Hardman, McDonald, Bellamy, Souto and Cambrian.

Under the circumstances Watkins has done an excellent job in choosing a side capable of extending England in this midweek game designed to boost Rugby League in South Wales. There are two Anglo-Welshmen in the side, with the captaincy given to the Hull and Great Britain forward, Trevor Skeet, on his seventh appearance for the country of his grandparents.

There are four new Welsh caps: Mike Davies, of Bridgend, Phil Ford of Warrington, Proctor of Bradford Northern, and the substitute from Bridgend, Chris O'Brien. The England team will be announced tomorrow.

England: G. Jones (Blackpool), C. O'Brien (Bridgend), P. Ford (Warrington), P. Proctor (Bradford Northern), M. Davies (Bridgend), T. Skeet (Hull), D. Watkins (Manager), S. Souto (Cambrian), R. Bellamy (Warrington), B. Brynnoir (Warrington), W. Williams (Warrington), H. Hardman (Warrington), F. Fenwick (Warrington), D. Ringo (Warrington).

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# Promising Helen Street to lead off Carson treble

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

Willie Carson looks the man to follow at Ascot today, when he stands an excellent chance of winning all group three races on Helen Street, Habibi and Bedtime.

Helen Street is named to win the Hoover Fillies' Mile (3.5), even though she must give 4lb to Henry Cecil's unbeaten filly Oh So Sharp and 7lb to two other unbeaten fillies, Morning Devotion and Pollination.

The concession to Oh So Sharp looks especially daunting in view of the fact that her Solaris Stakes form has worked out so well with both the second, Young Runaway, and the third, St. Hilary winning next time out.

However, I still think that Helen Street will be up to it. I was impressed with the way that she overcame her inexperience to beat Oh So Sharp's stable companion, Batave, over six furlongs here in July.

But if that performance was promising, it did not compare with her next at Deauville where she won the group three Prix du Calvados by three lengths, breaking the course record for seven furlongs in the process.

Being by the late and much-lamented stallion, Troy, out of a Riverman mare from the same family as Sun Prince, Helen

Street should be in her element racing over the old mile this afternoon and I take her to inflict the first defeat on Oh So Sharp and extend her own unbeaten record.

With Petong, Habibi and Never So Bold standing their ground, the Diadem Stakes (3.40) is virtually a re-run of the Vernon's Sprint Trophy at Haydock Park earlier this month when Petong won by a short head from Habibi with Never So Bold breathing down their necks in third.

Habibi is preferred now because he has the feeling that she could be coming back to her best after a period in the doldrums. Both at Newmarket in July and at York in August she looked a shadow of her former self. But at Haydock it was a different story and we saw something like the Habibi of old.

She will not need to have come on much since then, at a time of the year when fillies often win, to regain the winning trail on the course where she won the King's Stand Stakes in June over a furlong shorter.

Twelve months ago, Carson won the Cumberland Lodge Stakes, riding Band for Dick Hern. Now the same combination could easily have the

answer to today's race (4.10) in the massive shape of Lord Halifax's gelding, Bedtime.

Far from being ill at ease on fast ground, Bedtime positively bounces off it. True, he has never won over a mile and a half, but his pedigree - by Busto and out of a mare by Primera - and his style of racing suggest he will relish it.

At Kempton three weeks ago, nothing was going stronger at the end of a mile and three furlongs than bedtime, who defeated Gold and Ivory by a length in the September Stakes. On Sunday, Gold and Ivory paid his conqueror a handsome tribute by running away with the group one Preis von Europa at Cologne.

The word from West Hales is that Carson can also expect to go close in the Clarence House Stakes (2.30) on Hern's new-comer Multi-System, a colt by The Minstrel out of Nocturnal Spruce, who won the 1,000 guineas 10 years ago.

But, in this instance, I just prefer Pacific Cold, who was runner-up to Multi-System's stable companion, Local Sutor, in the Convivial Stakes at York last month. Last Saturday that form received a substantial filling when Local Sutor won a fiercely-competitive Mill Reef Stakes at Newbury.

# Punters wise after the event

By John Kartar

Talk about hindsight being 20-20. After Lester Piggott had won the Granby Stakes on Tom Boat at a sunlit Sandown Park yesterday, nearly everyone within earshot seemed to be kicking themselves for not having realized the significance of "Old Stoner's" presence at the Easter course.

After all, they were saying sagely, as Tom Boat's number was being hoisted in the frame, Piggott is not in the habit of venturing from his Newmarket lair on bookies' grounds. "Old Stoner's" presence at the Easter course.

After all, they were saying sagely, as Tom Boat's number was being hoisted in the frame, Piggott is not in the habit of venturing from his Newmarket lair on bookies' grounds. "Old Stoner's" presence at the Easter course.

It is the oldest story in racing, of course, as the fact that Tom Boat started at the singularly un-Piggott-like odds of 10-1 bore witness to few people having laid. Forgive me for saying this, but I think that the punters who backed Tom Boat just might have been a little more than 20-20 in the "Nanny".

Enough of Piggott for the moment, though, what of the noble former champion rider, swanned back to Newmarket to demonstrate once again his uncanny knack of being in the right place at the right time? Tom Boat beat a goodish field, notably the heavily



Lester Piggott brings home Tom Boat, his only ride of the day, in the Granby Stakes at Sandown Park yesterday. (Photographer Chris Cole)

## Sandown Park results

2.30 (6-11) 1. MURRAY (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 2. Jack Frost (W. Piggott, 5-1) 3. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 4. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 5. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 6. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 7. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 8. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 9. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 10. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 11. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 12. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 13. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 14. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 15. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 16. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 17. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 18. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 19. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 20. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 21. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 22. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 23. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 24. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 25. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 26. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 27. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 28. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 29. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 30. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 31. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 32. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 33. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 34. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 35. Lady (K. Bradshaw, 5-1) 36. 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Law Report September 27 1984

## Tax consequences of varying maintenance orders

Marley-Clarke v Jones (Inspector of Taxes)

Before Mr Justice Anthony Lincoln Judgment delivered September 24

In matrimonial proceedings the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 gives the High Court wide and flexible powers regarding the making, variation and backdating of maintenance orders. And a variation order by the court backdated by some 11 years the variation of maintenance was to be treated as having retrospective effect for tax purposes.

Mr Justice Anthony Lincoln so held in a reserved judgment allowing an appeal by Mrs Angela Marley-Clarke from a decision of the Working General Commissioners in respect of assessments to income tax under Case II of Schedule D made on her for the years from 1975 to 1980.

The commissioners had determined that maintenance payments were the subject of the assessments were the income of the taxpayer and not of her son notwithstanding a retrospective variation order that required the taxpayer's former husband to make the payments direct to his son.

Mr Scott Baker, QC, and Mr Andrew Thornhill for the taxpayer. Mr Robert Carwath for the Crown.

Mr JUSTICE ANTHONY LINCOLN said that in 1969 the taxpayer's former husband had been ordered in divorce proceedings to pay to the taxpayer maintenance for herself and maintenance for her son, John Robert, at the rate of £2.10s. per week. In 1980 the taxpayer obtained by consent a variation of that order whereby the payments were to be made direct to her son with retrospective effect to 1969.

The circumstances in which she came to apply for the variation were that she had consulted the Inland Revenue authorities and received an assurance that if she obtained the variation she would then be repaid any tax overpaid on the basis of such variation. She did so but, deplably, the Revenue refused to honour that assurance and litigation arose.

The questions arising on the taxpayer's appeal were (i) what was the true construction of the maintenance orders, (ii) what were the limits on the power of the High Court to backdate a maintenance order and (iii) what were the tax consequences of such backdating.

First as to the construction of the 1969 order, the taxpayer argued that its terms created a trust in favour of her son with the consequence that the income was income to which he was entitled. However in *Stevens v Tizard* (1940) 1 KB 204 the Court of Appeal had held that such money was paid to the mother as income paid into her hands to which the child was not entitled in his own right. It was not desirable for the court to circumvent that longstanding decision. The conclusion was that of the many formulae that might now be adopted as to the true construction of the parties, the formula that had been used in the 1969 order continued to have the consequence that money paid under it was income in the hands of the immediate payee, namely the taxpayer.

So far as the backdating of maintenance orders was concerned, it appeared that there was uncertainty as to the limits of the court's powers. Section 28 of the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 imposed a limit on the date to which a periodical payments order might be ordered to begin, namely not earlier than the date of the making of an application for the order. The same limit applied to secured periodical payments. Section 31 of the same Act provided for the power to vary such orders. There were two observations to be made about that section. First it continued to express terms as to the period from which it might retrospectively take effect, some three sections later than the one in which the legislature expressly sanctioned retrospective orders. Secondly, the section was, as it were, parasitic upon section 28. An order under the later section could not be made unless an order under the earlier one existed. If the earlier and original order was made to take retrospective effect, and required variation in any part of its effect, retrospective or prospective, the varying order would require to be retrospective to the extent.

It was difficult to understand why if there was a power to vary the original order, any period during which that order took effect should be beyond the reach of the variation power. Moreover in *MacDonald v MacDonald* (1964) 111 All ER 1011 the Court of Appeal adopted an unrestricted approach to the variation power that was then contained in section 28(1) of the Matrimonial Causes Act 1950. The court had not been impressed by the argument that courts of summary jurisdiction were given express sanction to vary arrears but that no express sanction for the High Court could be found in the relevant Acts.

The Crown's argument that the variation order in this case was limited under section 28 of the 1973 Act to the date of application so that any variation order was limited to the date of application for variation, was unacceptable. The High Court's jurisdiction stemming from section

31 of the 1973 Act, which contained no express limitation, was limited only by the extent of the original order. Further the court's power extended to enable a variation of payment to be made, both retrospectively as well as prospectively, where the person intended to be the beneficiary of the payment remained the same.

The limits on the power to vary were commensurate and consistent with those imposed on the order which it was sought to vary. The High Court had power to specify a term in a variation order beginning not earlier than the date at which the term of the original order was specified to begin. In this case the order reaching back to 1969 was a valid one.

Finally, what were the tax consequences of a retrospective order? When an interim order was made, it was very often a provisional decision arrived at after cursory investigation of the parties' resources. There followed the main periodical payments order. If the circumstances justified a retrospective order, the court might specify a term starting from the time of the application. The later order usually resulted from a fuller investigation than the interim inquiry. Then there was the contrasting situation. A periodical payments order might be varied under section 31. The investigations leading to both orders were equally full and thorough. But fresh circumstances created the need for changed obligations and, to the extent that the later order superseded the earlier by its retrospective effect, the need for past changes. So far as the tax consequences of each situation was concerned, no principle existed justifying differing treatment.

The Crown argued that the tax property to be assessed in relation to such retrospective orders was related to, and arose out of, payments pursuant to the order as and when they occurred. Accordingly payments by way of adjustment, for example repayments under section 33 of the Act - had to be considered and assessed as and when they occurred within the relevant year of assessment, not written back into the history of the earlier order and payments thereunder so as to reopen past assessments. The Crown therefore contended that here the 1980 order did not affect the validity of the 1969 order or the character of the payments already made; and, if that was right, in one sense the change of payee and of amount was of no retrospective effect whatsoever. It was the future that was changed by reference to the past.

Alternatively, it was contended that the court had no power to make a retrospective order which could effect the validity of the 1969 order or the character of payments made under them. Third, it was said that the 1980 order could not alter tax liability if it was properly determined at the time.

If those contentions or any of them were correct, hardship had to result - and in recognition and mitigation of this the Revenue had issued a statement of practice, a non-statutory concession, which was invariably observed. The Crown asserted that registrars, when determining the amount of an order and how far it should be backdated, took into account such concessions and should continue to do so without difficulty.

For the taxpayer it was said that the Act of 1973 equipped the court with the widest possible and most flexible powers to do justice between spouses. In most cases insufficient funds existed to maintain two families. Parliament could not have intended that the beneficiary of a variation order should be put in a worse position financially than if his initial order - for example an interim order - had been fully and correctly determined in the first place.

Sections 28 to 35 of the 1973 Act were to be read together as a single code equipping the court with wide and flexible maintenance powers. Section 33, although a newcomer to the group, took its place with them. Read as a whole, this group seemed to have included in its range of remedies the power to rearrange or even eliminate past obligations, to determine from a future point of time a past entitlement or liability as if it had been determined in the time to which it related. The code thus provided a remedy akin to *restitutio in integrum*, and the consequences of that remedy were the same as those which in the case of *Spence v Inland Revenue Commissioners* (1941) 24 T.C. 311 flowed from rescission, such as the reopening of an assessment.

The conclusion was that the 1980 order substituted its obligations and rights for those of the 1969 order, as if the former had been in force under the 1969 order. The question arose or could have arisen as to whether the discretion to make the consent variation order was properly exercised. Doubtless it had been. Accordingly the amounts of the assessments represented income in the hands of the taxpayer's son and were assessable as such, contrary to the commissioners' determination.

Solicitors: Potter and Kempson, Fulham; Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

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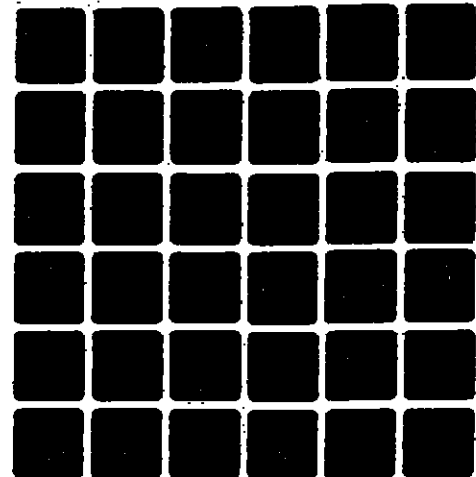
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## HORIZONS

## The Times guide to career development

### Keeping a cool head

An aura of exclusivity and secrecy surrounds the business of headhunting. It masks the unromantic truth - they are marketers of jobs - albeit to the powerful and the ambitious. These upmarket recruitment agencies cover less than the top 5 per cent of the market and only positions offering salaries of more than £20,000. "We're a selling operation," says David Diehl, the chairman of Heidrich and Struggles, one of Britain's leading companies. "But because the product we're selling is so esoteric and the people we're selling to, so limited, we go direct rather than through the mass media."

So when the suave and persuasive voice at the end of the line announces: "I'm a headhunter, are you free to talk?" the first piece of advice is caveat emptor. If he or she does not tell you straight away where he found your name - and the reliable companies undoubtedly would - you should ask. It is best to put to rest any doubts you might have about his identity or trustworthiness by stalling his request for an interview and checking his credentials first.

This can be done most easily by referring to the executive grapevine, or Kogan Page's Personnel and Training Databook. You can also call the headhunter back on the phone number he has given you, to check he is not a complete fly-by-night.

If you are interested in the proposition, or just flattered to be asked and intrigued to know what is behind the call, a job and candidate specification should be available: if one is not available, there needs to be a good reason.

#### Should you proceed?

It is unlikely that you will be given the name of the client at this stage, you may just be told that it is, for example, a world leader in cosmetics. But some well-judged questions on corporate strategy, organization, or on its products, may evince some telling clues. The name should be given at the interview. If, as in some cases, the search has been instigated without the incumbent knowing he is being removed, nothing may be revealed until you have met the client.

There is another reason to look hard at the headhunter's approach. In an industry with a few large and respectable companies, and a plethora of small ones, cowboys have roamed, using secrecy for unscrupulous ends. Some have acted as executive spies, hunting out research or market data for competitors.

An almost certainly exceptional case involved a chairman who set headhunters on to his fellow directors,

#### Nick Kochan looks at the perils - and pleasures - of being headhunted

on the suspicion (correct, as it turned out) that they were looking for other jobs. If the name is not familiar, and does not appear in the standard reference sources, it might be prudent to think again about whether to proceed.

About half the people approached go on to the first interview, although not all are seriously interested in a move. "Some come along for the ego trip," says Diehl. "They want to get known to you, in case there is something better next time."

At the interview, the applicant must be alert to revealing sensitive details, and work on the assumption that "everything told to the headhunter, he will share with the client. The headhunter works as an agent of the employer," warns Philip Schofield, editor of Personnel Executive magazine.

Richard Addis, of British headhunters Tyack, says he would always ask if there is some information that he cannot pass to the client. He understands the need to withhold profit figures or sensitive research. "But if there is something in your background that is not to your credit, and you want to disguise it, then I'm going to inquire about it, and the client will want to know."

At the interview the headhunter will expect to go through a tough grilling about the company, its operations, and any impending changes in personnel or structure. In many cases they do, says Diehl. "Candidates who are high fliers are immensely fussy. They'll put you through the hoops. They often go through several years' annual reports, and want to know the background to every blip in the figures."

If the candidate successfully passes the interview stage, he should reach the short list to see the client. A question about the number of rivals might reveal that you are the last of forty that have been considered and turned down, suggesting that the client doesn't know what he wants. Or if you are the only one on it, it is either that you are very good indeed, or else that everybody knows something that you don't.

A lot of people who would like to receive that call, but don't, write in to

headhunters, asking to go on their lists. Is it worth the postage? Heidrich and Struggles puts all 2,500 letters that it receives each month on computer, sifts them at the end of the year and might hang on to the CVs of what Diehl calls "BYEs" - bright young executives. They could be followed up later when the candidates are no longer so green and have reached suitably elevated and well-paid positions.

Korn Ferry, a leading company in the UK, but with headquarters in the US, takes a more charitable view. "If we have the right job, there's no discrimination," says an official.

Unemployed executives face a particularly hard time breaking into the headhunting circuit. "Why was I him?" is the sort of albatross hung round their necks. Diehl says he has sympathy for the top man whose company is taken over and he can't or won't stay on. The out-of-work executive would not get useful general career advice from a headhunter believes Schofield.

#### Certain consolation

Headhunters have become involved in a part of the general selection procedure that is increasingly the rule rather than the exception. This is the use of psychological and other forms of testing. It is quite likely that companies who could offer these facilities. American companies in particular use headhunters as executive shirkers as well as searchers.

Candidates may have to spend half a day with an industrial psychologist where numeracy and personality will be tested in a series of multiple choice papers. Diehl does not recommend using these to an employer, unless there is a dead-heat for the job, or if the employer wants a fail-safe.

"People should be judged on the companies they have turned round not their mother complexes," he says. He understands the feelings of an executive turned down for a responsible job on the basis of such a test.

Europeans and German companies in particular, take the testing a step further by asking for a graphologists report to be submitted with the headhunter's own assessment. "We usually come to the same conclusion," says Addis.

For the executive who falls at this hurdle, there is one consolation; he never asked to be considered. For the candidate who passes, with flying colours, he equally can take it or leave it. They are the lucky few.

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Please send your CV to: **Ring Hilary McPherson** at 01-293 9833 - No Agencies



## RENTALS

## RENTALS

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*Journal of Management Education* 30(6)

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# Belgrano 'lapses' query by Owen

By Philip Webster  
Political Reporter

Dr David Owen called yesterday for the publication of a White Paper, and a personal statement by the Prime Minister to the Commons, to enable Parliament to be given what he called a totally truthful account about the events surrounding the sinking of the General Belgrano.

In a letter to Mrs Margaret Thatcher, the Social Democratic Party leader asked her why she had not corrected the record of what she told the Commons on May 4, 1982, two days after the sinking, that the two destroyers accompanying the Belgrano "were not attacked in any way".

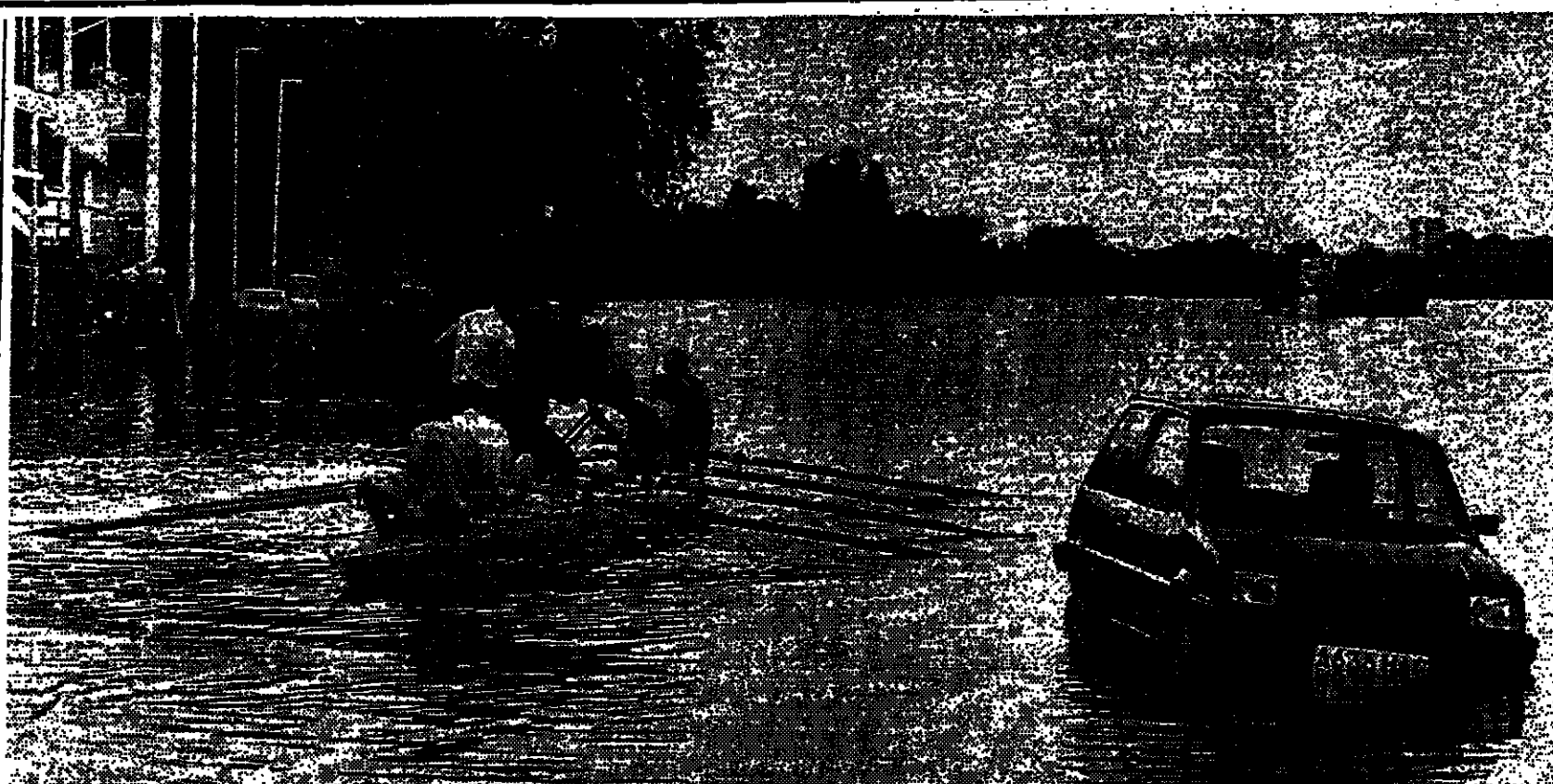
Dr Owen said that surely she had been aware of the signal by then which was sent back by HMS Conqueror that three torpedoes had been fired, two exploding on the Belgrano and one hitting one of the destroyers though not exploding.

"It is very hard to understand why during the 39 hours that elapsed from the sinking of the Belgrano and your standing up in the House of Commons to answer questions you had not been told that one torpedo had hit an escorting vessel."

Dr Owen raised other issues arising from Mrs Thatcher's letters on the Belgrano affair last week. Many people had been surprised to learn that ministers were not aware of the position and course of the Belgrano on May 2, and even more surprised to hear from Sir (then Mr) John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence at the time, that he was still unaware on May 4.

Dr Owen said that on December 16, 1982, when asked by Mr Tam Dalyell, Labour MP for Linlithgow, whether the distance from the Belgrano to the nearest British surface vessel at the time the cruiser was torpedoed was known to her Majesty's Government, she had answered: "Yes".

Had she used the term "her Majesty's Government" to mean that, while civil servants in the Ministry of Defence knew, no minister was aware? If so why was information known in the Ministry of Defence not made available to ministers on May 3, especially as, according to a report in *The Times* on September 15, the Conqueror was continuing to hunt the escort destroyers.



Bad tidings: A City of London School eight encountering a Thames high tide hazard off Putney yesterday (Photograph: Chris Harris).

## Minister rejects call for jail segregation

From Our Correspondent, Belfast

Mr Nicholas Scott, the Northern Ireland Office Minister with responsibility for prisons, yesterday rejected demand of 10 "loyalist" hunger strikers in Magilligan jail, co Londonderry, to be separated from Republicans.

In so doing, he is almost certain to have reactivated the hunger strike which they had suspended only 18 hours before, for the second time, to allow negotiations to take place without duress.

In his first public comment on the long-running on-off-off force, Mr Scott dismissed any suggestion that the de facto separation of prisoners in force at the larger Maze prison should be extended to Magilligan.

The Committee for Loyalist Prisoners' Rights which has been organizing outside support for prison segregation is meeting tonight, and last night the two Ulster politicians who had been acting as mediators were considering their position. They are expected now to withdraw from the scene and allow events to take their course.

Some observers were predicting with confidence that the 10 inmates would resume total fasting "to the death" after having gone for as long as 30 days with no food and only bottled water.

Mr Scott's statement came shortly after his latest talks with the two mediators, Mr Peter Robinson, the MP for Belfast East, and Mr John Carson, a member of the Stormont assembly.

Segregation could undermine prisoners' safety by increasing paramilitary influence and was not in their best interests, the minister said. A quick reaction force existed at Magilligan to deal with any serious incidents.

The Government could not accede to threats of a hunger strike which, as recent experience had shown, was a weapon of which the use was fraught with danger for all in Northern Ireland.

The minister said he was assessing safety measures and considering suggestions by Mr Robinson and Mr Carson. He dismissed bluntly the idea of segregation of prisoners into Loyalist, Republican and other groups.

The Government and prison authorities were in no doubt that such a system would increase the ability of paramilitary organizations on both sides to operate more effectively. No government could tolerate such a situation.

## Maxwell defies NGA 'blackmail'

By Mark Russell

Robert Maxwell, the publisher of Mirror Group Newspapers, yesterday described as "foolish" a move by the National Graphical Association to have him expelled from the Labour Party.

He said that if any of his newspapers were hit by wildcat industrial action and failed to be published, he would close them down.

The print union's executive council resolved on Tuesday to ask the Labour Party conference amendments committee to expel Mr Maxwell.

The NGA is seeking the expulsion because Mr Maxwell failed to appear on two days last November. Although Mr Maxwell did not then own the newspaper, he has continued the legal action started by the former management.

Mr Maxwell said last night that he had had two meetings with Mr Tony Dubbins, the NGA's general secretary-elect, before the union executive meeting. Mr Maxwell said that Mr Dubbins had told him refusal to drop the court action would lead to industrial problems at the *Daily Mirror*, and that he had replied by calling the threat "blackmail".

## Chorus of approval for Hongkong deal

Continued from page 1

people can try to reject the settlement and approach 1997 with none at all, or accept this one as the best that could be achieved.

The most likely points of contention during the next few weeks are how far Britain is justified in refusing to accept immigrants from Hongkong other than the 20,000 who have full British passports and automatic right of abode here, and how far the Chinese guarantees on the colony's future can be trusted.

But Sir Geoffrey said in a radio interview yesterday that the intention had been to reach an agreement which would maintain the stability of the prospering colony until at least the middle of the next century, and to give confidence to those who wished to remain.

Officials were also pointing last night to passages in the document which define it as legally binding, and to the amount of detail which it contains.

One failure of the British negotiating team, led at first by Sir Percy Cradock as ambassador in Peking, and then by his successor, Sir Richard Evans, was the right for the new form of quasi-British status in the territory to be handed down to children born after July 1, 1997.

had had to be a lot of give and take. It was not a perfect settlement. But none could be under the circumstances.

Initial reaction in Britain, where Parliament is expected to debate the agreement in early December, was favourable.

Sir Peter Blaker, chairman of the Conservative backbench foreign affairs committee, said that the party would be happy if the people of Hongkong were happy too.

Mr George Robertson, Labour foreign affairs spokesman, thought the settlement generally good.

Dr David Owen for the Social Democrats said: "If Hongkong is confident in its future then the rest of the world will follow."

Mr Wu Xueqian, China's Foreign Minister, said in an address to the UN General Assembly that the agreement would contribute towards peace and stability in Asia.

In Hongkong itself a group of people demonstrated with placards saying: "Do not betray Hongkong" as Sir Edward Youde presented the document to the colony's Legislative Council. But several resignations which had been anticipated from the council did not materialize, and most people seem to have accepted the outcome philosophically.

## Letter from Moscow

# A glimpse of the unreachable West

"Soviet television presents a film made about the United States". It is the kind of announcement guaranteed to stir Soviet viewers out of the stupor induced by combine harvesters, oil production figures and variety shows from East Germany.

The film that follows is bound to cast America in a bad light, other wise it would not be shown. But it comes from "over there", the distant and unreachable West, where streets are simultaneously lined with gold and the bodies of the unemployed. The United States has poverty and a crazed anti-communist President, but it also has wonders that can be glimpsed on celluloid.

In this case the film, *Run, Simon, Run*, turned out to be an early Burt Reynolds vehicle made in 1970. Mr Reynolds, debbed into Russian subtitles are unknown here) played an angry young Red Indian wrongly imprisoned for a murder he did not commit. Released from Arizona state penitentiary, Simon goes in search of the real murderer - a white man - tracks him down and kidnaps him, only to be shot dead.

As a piece of cinematic art *Run, Simon, Run* is eminently forgettable, except for Mr Reynolds' convincing Red Indian looks and smouldering manner. But it reflects the growing American liberal conscience over the plight of American Indians in the 1960's and therefore was taken out of the archives by Moscow Television to coincide with the Kremlin's current campaign on behalf of Leonard Peltier, a Red Indian leader convicted of murdering two FBI agents.

There are growing doubts about the conviction in the United States and the case may be reopened.

The Soviet campaign, however, is also partly designed to counteract Western charges that dissidents - in particular the scientist, Dr Andrei Sakharov - are persecuted in the Soviet Union. Mr Peltier, like Simon, is prevented as the victim of capitalism oppression. Or, as the Soviet equivalent of *Radio Times* put it: "This film clearly demonstrates racism in the world's leading capitalist country."

Unfortunately, Soviet viewers tended to be struck not

only by the oppression of the American Indian but also by the fact that the Arizona prison seemed remarkably benevolent, the state official administering the Indian reservations was an attractive blonde rather than an SS stormtrooper, and the flats inhabited by Americans looked spacious and sumptuous. Even Burt Reynolds' cabin seemed fairly luxurious.

For more sophisticated viewers there was also the point that the condescension and prejudice encountered by Simon in his search for justice was not dissimilar to the patronizing Great Russian attitude toward ethnic minorities.

As the late Yuri Andropov forcefully pointed out, Russians can be arrogant and condescending toward minority nationalities.

On balance, showing selected Western films on television and in cinemas probably benefits the Kremlin rather than the reverse. A ideological point is got across to a mass audience, which in turn is made to feel that it has had a glimpse of Western life.

One of this year's box office hits across Russia is *Footsie*, starring Dustin Hoffman. It was shown, according to well-informed Russians, because it combined "the suppression of women in the West" (the Hoffman character encounters male chauvinism when he dresses as a woman) with unemployment (he does so because he is out of work and takes a female role).

The film begins, in the original version, with a long sequence which explains why he is out of work.

In the Soviet version this opening segment was cut. Most Soviet cinema goes for the message - the West is collapsing socially and economically - while at the same time wondering why an out of work actor in New York appears to earn more than President Chernenko and enjoys a life style beyond the dreams of most members of the Soviet elite, let alone the average worker or peasant.

One or two may also have wondered why Western directors are allowed to make such frankly critical films without being sacked or arrested.

Richard Owen

## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

### Today's events

Royal engagements  
Princess Anne, President, Save the Children Fund, attends a concert at Blaziers Club, Windsor, 7.45.  
The Duke of Kent opens the Marlow Theatre, Canterbury, and attends a performance of *King Lear* by the Kent Opera, 5.15.  
Princess Alexandra, vice-patron of the YWCA of Great Britain, opens Jesmond House at Newcastle upon Tyne, 11.30; and later opens the new village of CARE for mentally handicapped people at Ponteland, Northumberland, 1.25; at 3.30 she visits Law Cranecleugh.

Keilder Water, to open the Northumbria Calvert Trust holiday centre for handicapped persons and their families.  
Princess and Princess Michael of Kent attend a preview of *River Journeys - Eaters of men* at the Royal Geographical Society, Kensington Gate, 6.15.

New exhibitions  
My cars are my eyes, by Carolyn James, blind artist, Torrance Gallery, 29b Dundas St, Edinburgh, Mon to Fri 11 to 6, Sat 10 to 5; (ends Oct 6).  
The Industrial Heritage of Bolton Museum and Art Gallery, Le Mans Crescent, Bolton, Mon to Fri 9.30 to 5.30, Sat 10 to 5, closed Wed and Sun (ends Oct 27).

Exhibitions in progress  
Prints and drawings from the Telford Collection, Ironbridge Gorge Museum, Telford, Shropshire, Mon to Sun 10 to 5; (ends Jan 13).  
Spain to Sicily: paintings and drawings by John Pickering, Colin Jellicoe Gallery, 82 Portland St, Manchester, Mon to Fri 10 to 6, Sat 11 to 5; (ends Oct 6).  
The Oxfordshire: new works by local artists, Dorchester Galleries, Rotten Row, Dorchester, Oxon, Mon to Sun 10 to 6, closed Weds; (ends Oct 21).

Kings and Queens: paintings, drawings, miniatures, sculpture and portrait medals from the Royal Collection; The Queen's Gallery, Buckingham Palace, London; Tues to Sat 11 to 5, Sun 2 to 5; (ends Sept 30).  
Channel tunnel: a lesson in hope; Ironbridge Gorge Museum, Eton Gallery, Telford, Mon to Sun 10 to 6; (ends Oct 7).  
Time Gentlemen Please the glory of the English Pub: history and architecture of pubs; Cartwright Hall, Lister Park, Bradford; Tues to Sun 10 to 5; (ends 13 Jan).

Living in the City: photographs by Robert Hamilton; Impressions Gallery of Photography, 17 Collicer-gate, York; Tues to Sat 10 to 6; (ends Oct 13).  
Four Rooms: Art Gallery and Museum, Schoolhouse, Alnwick, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Thurs 10 to 8, Sun 2 to 5; (ends Oct 6).  
The Arts and Architecture by Sir Hugh Casson; Uppington Theatre, Leics, 5.

Music  
Concert by the Britten-Pears Orchestra, with Robert Wynn (clutch), St Margaret's, Lewisham, 7.30.  
Piano recital by Peter Katze, St. George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, 1.  
Concert by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, The Hengist, Reading, 7.30.  
Piano recital by Martin Roscoe; Royal Exchange Theatre, St. Ann's St, Manchester, 1.05.

Lecture  
Over the Andes and down the Amazon, by Don Whillans; Lectures Theatre, Bolton Central Library, 7.30.

General  
Home Improvement Show; Royal Horticultural Halls, Vincent Sq, London, SW1; 10 to 8 daily; (ends Oct 3).

Radio listeners  
The Voice of the Listener, set up last year to represent Britain's radio listeners, is seeking listeners' views on current broadcasting services and plans and community radio. Further information and your views to Voice of the Listener, 101 King's Drive, Gravesend, Kent DA12 5BQ.

New Commons guide  
A new paperback edition of *The Times Guide to the House of Commons*, which appears after each general election, is published today. It is a completely revised edition and up-dated to June 1984 and contains an addendum slip giving Cabinet changes made on Sept 10, '84. Published by Times Books Ltd, it is available from all good bookshops at £7.95.

### New books - paperback

The Library Editor's selection of interesting books published this week:  
FICTION  
The Poem of the Old, translated by Rita Hamilton and Janet Parry, introduction and notes by Ian Macrae, parallel text (Penguin Classics, £2.95).  
A Poet in the Family, autobiography of Dannie Abse (Robson, £3.50).  
Blood for the Ghosts, Classical Influences in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries, by Hugh Lloyd-Jones (Duckworth, £7.95).  
The Book of the Dead, by William S. Burroughs (Penguin, £3.95).  
J. B. Priestley, The Last of the Sages, by John Aldrich (John Calder, £5.95).  
Remembering Orwell, compiled by Stephen Wadham, introduction by George Woodcock (Penguin, £2.95).  
The 20th Century: new works by local artists, Dorchester Galleries, Rotten Row, Dorchester, Oxon, Mon to Sun 10 to 6, closed Weds; (ends Oct 21).  
The Purple Decades, by Tom Wolfe (Penguin, £5.95).  
The Second Crusade: New Selection of Letters to the Times since 1800, compiled by Kenneth Gregory (Unwin, £2.95).

### Roads

The Midlands: A46: Roadworks S of Newark at Farnon Cross-roads, Notts. A1: Contraflow near Newark, N and S of the junction with the A46: southbound exit and entry A1 to A46 closed; diversion, A5: Contraflow SE of Tamworth, Warwickshire.

Wales and West: A31: Delays between Ringwood and Wimborne at Tricketts Cross, A38: Lane Closures on both carriageways between Exeter and Plymouth at Marsh Mills Viaduct, A398: Roadworks in St Ives; temp traffic lights, 9.5pm.

The North: A19: Carriageway reconstruction of Askrigg Rd, Doncaster; delays expected. A69: Roadworks on Garshead Western by-pass lane restrictions, 22.00-22.50 at junction 5 (M9) access to eastbound carriageway of M9 closed; diversion operates via junction 4. M8: Lane closures eastwards from junction 14 (Glasgow Fruit Market).

Information supplied by the A.A.

### Christmas post

The latest recommended posting dates for Christmas cards, letters and parcels, being sent by ship to destinations including Australia, New Zealand, Bangladesh, Thailand and Zaire, is Monday, October 1. A special leaflet, *Overseas Christmas Mail 1984*, giving details of latest recommended posting dates for Christmas mail by surface and air, is now available free of charge from post offices.

### The pound

	Bank	Rate
Australia \$	2.28	2.28
Canada \$	1.48	1.48
Denmark kr	14.36	14.36
France fr	11.58	11.58
Germany DM	3.55	3.55
Greece dr	166.00	166.00
Hongkong \$	12.50	12.50
India Rs	1.07	1.07
Japan Yen	236.00	236.00
Netherlands Gld	4.41	4.41
Norway kr	11.52	11.52
Portugal Esc	200.00	200.00
Spain Ptas	166.64	166.64
Sweden Kr	11.58	11.58
Switzerland Fr	1.27	1.27
Yugoslavia Dnr	281.00	281.00

Rates for small denomination bank notes only, as supplied yesterday by Barclays Bank International Ltd. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques and other foreign currency.

London Price Index: 354.8.  
Retail: The FT index closed down 1.0 at 569.2.

### The papers

The Daily Express, commenting on the Trade Union Act which came into force today, says: "It is not enough to win the political and legislative battles necessary to put these measures on the statute book. They need to be used." Commenting on the miners' strike, the paper suggests that the measures be used to stop violence on the picket line. It adds: "Legislation that is not used is useless. So is a Government that passes it."

Commenting on Sir Nigel Lawson's speech in Washington on unemployment, the *Daily Mirror* says that it is not true that unemployment cannot be reduced. The paper adds: "If West Germany, The United States, Japan and France can do better, why can't we, the only Western nation which can supply all its own food? We have the advantages. What we don't have is the policies."

Anniversaries  
Births: Alfred Mahan, naval historian, West Point, New York, 1840; Louis Brandeis, 1st president of South Africa 1910-19, Greytown, South Africa, 1862.

Deaths: William of Wykeham, chancellor, bishop of Winchester and founder of Winchester College and New College, Oxford, Bishop of Waltham, Hampshire, 1404; Edgar Degges, Paris, 1917; Aristide Maillol, painter and sculptor, Banyuls-sur-Mer, 1944; Clara Bow, the "it girl" film star, Los Angeles, 1965, The Society of Jesus was founded, 1540.

## Portfolio

Monday-Saturday record your daily Portfolio total.  
Add these together to determine your weekly Portfolio total.  
If your total matches the published weekly dividend figure you have won outright or a share of the prize money, stated for that week, and must claim your prize as instructed below.

How to claim  
The Times Portfolio claims the £250,000 prize fund, £100,000 of which will be the day your overall total matches The Times Portfolio dividend. No claims can be accepted unless the prize is claimed by the time you have your card with you when you telephone.  
You are unable to telephone someone else on claim on your behalf but they must have your card and call The Times Portfolio claims line between 9.00 and 11.00.  
No responsibility can be accepted for failure to contact the claims office for any reason within the stated hours.  
The above instructions are applicable to both daily and weekly dividend claims.  
© 1984 Times Portfolio cards include minor reprints in the instructions on the reverse side. These cards are not inviolable.

### Weather

A deep depression to the W of Ireland will move slowly E.  
6am to midnight

London, SE, E, NE England, East Angles: Dry at first, but occasional rain by the afternoon; wind moderate S; max temp 17C (63F).  
Central S, central N England, E, W Midlands, Channel Islands: Mostly cloudy, some outbreaks of rain; wind SW moderate or fresh; max temp 16C (61F).  
SW England, S, N Wales: Mostly cloudy, some rain at times, but becoming brighter by evening; wind SW moderate or fresh; max temp 16C (61F).  
NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, Scotland, Glasgow, Argyll: Cloudy; longer periods of rain, heavy in places; wind S fresh or strong; max temp 15C (59F).  
Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland: Dry at first, but rain in the afternoon and evening; wind E moderate or strong; max temp 15C (59F).  
Orkney, Shetland: Bright spells, but some rain by the evening; wind E light increasing to fresh or strong later; max temp 15C (59F).  
Northern Ireland: Rain at first, becoming brighter by the afternoon; wind S fresh or strong; max temp 15C (59F).  
Outlook for tomorrow and Saturday: Changeable with showers or longer periods of rain; temperatures near normal.

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind SW, moderate; mainly fair; visibility good; sea moderate or rough. English Channel (E-W): Wind, SW, moderate or fresh; visibility mainly good. English Channel (N-S): Wind, SW, moderate or fresh; visibility mainly good. English Channel (W-E): Wind, SW, moderate or fresh; visibility mainly good. English Channel (S-N): Wind, SW, moderate or fresh; visibility mainly good.

First quarter: October 1.  
Sun rises: 6.55 am. Sun sets: 6.55 pm.  
Moon rises: 8.00 pm. Moon sets: 8.00 pm.

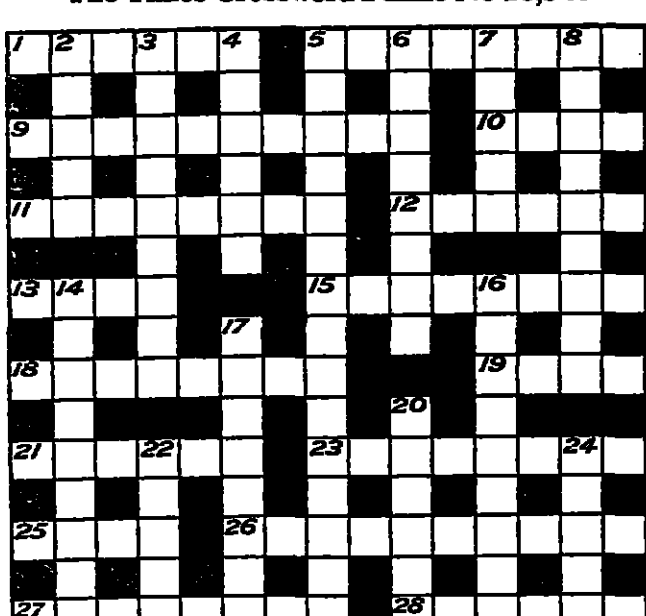
Lighting-up time  
London 7.17 pm to 8.28 am  
Bristol 7.27 pm to 8.38 am  
Edinburgh 7.38 pm to 8.49 am  
Manchester 7.38 pm to 8.49 am  
Preston 7.38 pm to 8.49 am

Yesterday  
Temperatures at midday yesterday: C, cloud; F, rain; S, sun; W, wind.

Highest and lowest  
Yesterday: Highest: dry: Harrogate 18C (64F); lowest: dry: Harrogate 11C (52F); highest: rain: Harrogate 11C (52F); lowest: rain: Harrogate 11C (52F).

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### The Times Crossword Puzzle No 16,546



- ACROSS
- Man, for example, in spite of Donne (6).
  - Diana enters tropical plants (8).
  - A gold-digger, right on the square (5-5).
  - Opinion eagerly sought by Todhunter (4).
  - Times can change, in terms of meaning (8).
  - Twenty-fifth pirate (6).
  - Most of the capital of Asian country (4).
  - Writer isn't silly about love-letters (8).
  - Invasion of privacy gives offence (8).
  - Outdrive with some enormous tee-shot (4).
  - Saint-Cloud? (6).
  - Missile-launcher makes one heel over in lake (8).
  - Samuel's victim repeatedly symbolizes 12 (4).
  - Review brilliantly played on stage (10).
  - Well-guarded craft, to get goose dressed (8, 1, 1, 5, 2, 1, 7).
  - Sort of wood that'll do for ground squirrel (6).
- DOWN
- Something round woman's neck pinched (5).
  - Statisticians in university sign dead first (9).
  - Managed without at present (6).
  - Pope's not at home with Mark's book (9, 6).
  - It's ridiculous to infer one's in the middle (8).
  - Paid a pound for hammer (5).
  - Not the precursor for a midnight feast (9).
  - Bring her a new sign of what's to come (9).
  - Improving reference work? (7, 2).
  - First-class scores if a beginner appears in opera (8).
  - One imprisoned for previous hold-up (3, 3).
  - Found, for example, in a lot of wine (5).
  - Small fraction of article's about it (5).
- Solution of Puzzle No 16,545
- CONCISE CROSSWORD PAGE 8